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A *Teiregia (Ti.)*
CONTINVATION
OF THE LAMENTA-
BLE AND ADMIRABLE AD-
VENTVRES OF DOM SEBA-
STIAN KING OF POR-
TV GALE.

With a declaration of all his time
employed since the battell in Africke
against the Infidels 1578. vntill
this present yeare 1603.



LONDON

Printed for *James Shaw*, and are to be sold at
his shop neare Ludgate.

1603.



The Epistle to the Reader.



Entle Reader, in the entrance of this Discourse which followes, you shall find three letters written by an auncient man called Doctor Texere a Portugal, directed to a Bishop this fathers verie friend, which I haue here compiled and expressed among other proofes to verifie the infortunate accidents this disastrous King hath sustained, since he was taken prisoner by the great Duke of Tuscane, untill the last day of the yeare past 1601. You may also find within this Pamphlet two Letters translated: one written by D. Raimond Marqueti, a Knight of the order of S. Iohn, borne in Messina in Sicile to Dom Sebastian; the other sent from the said King to D. Prospero Baracco, dwelling in Padua. By the two last letters it will evidently appeare unto you, that the prisoner detained now in Naples, is not that Marco Tullio Catizone, whom the Spaniards in their libels haue so falsly proclaimed; but the very true King of Portugale Dom Sebastian. Immediately after these letters followeth a discourse, in the beginning whereof there is a Preface written by father Texere, manifesting the naturall disposition of Portugals, and witnessing how constantly they addresse themselves in loyaltie towards their Gouvernours that raigne ouer them, according to the sincere word of God, and the unfallible rules of honour.

You may also behold a most ample declaration, about the

4 The Epistle to the Reader.
*end of this discourse, ministring foure seuerall points, worthie
 the reading and obseruing; to proue vnto you assuredly, that
 the prisoner for whom we trauell so industriously with per-
 seuerance, is the true and lawfull King of Portugale Dom
 Sebastian, whom God of his diuine mercie will (I trust) re-
 store to his former Crowne and dignitie, for the good and pro-
 pagation of the peace and welfare of all Christendome:
 which the eternall God effect, if it be his
 blessed will. Amen. The 26. of
 Feb. An. 1602.*

A



A Letter sent from father Fr. Io- SEPH TEXERE to a Bishop.



Post acceptā benedictionem. I wrote to your reue-
 rend Lordship siō Paris, to signifie vnto you the
 cause of my returne from Lions, where I recei-
 ued a letter siō your L. dated the 20. of March.
 In the which you gaue me in charge that if I
 had occasion to trauell into Italy, I should
 giue you speciall intelligence of all the occurrents that should
 be presented to my vnderstanding in my iourney: the 16. of A-
 prill in the same yeare I departed from Paris, towards these
 parts, passing through Campaigne: the very first day the gout
 began to assaile me, and ceased not, but accompanied me to
 Chalons, which was wednesday being holyday; where I remain-
 ed in my couent vntill the wednesday after Easter.

The same day, after diuer (hauing vrgent occasion) I was
 compelled by meanes of my sicknesse to vse the benefite of a
 coach, and came the Friday following to Nance. On Saterday
 following I vndertooke to walke faire and softly with much
 paine, to visit his Highnesse, and the Ladie sister to the King,
 and her husband, the Cardinall, the Count of Vaudemont, and
 the Princeesse his sister. Belceue me I cannot expresse in words
 the consolation I conceiued, in beholding the inseparable bond
 of loue and amitie, wherein these noble Princes seemed to be
 vnited and conformed: from whom like one loaden and charged
 with honourable benefits, giftes, graces, and fauours, I depar-
 ted to Basil on munday being the seuenth of May. Notwithstan-
 ding the great confort my entertainment gaue me occasion of,
 yet bitter spell of discontentment wounded me inwardly; for
 that the friday before, I had particular intelligence by the post,
 that the Calabrian, the false and counterfeit *Dom Sebastian*, as

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they termed him, the pretended King of Portugale, was rendered into the custodie of the gouernor of Orbetelo, a towne in Tuscanie bordering vpon the Mediterranean sea, being a part of the King of Spaines territories, from thence to be conueyed to the Viceroy of Naples: so swift were those bloudie Spaniards in their cruel expeditions. The poore Prince departed from that towne the 13 of Aprill, at eleuen of the clocke at night, passing by Siene the foure and twentieth, and was deliuered the fixe and twentieth. The manner of diuulging these newes, was by intelligence that came to Nance by Milan in lesse then eight dayes. The eleuenth of May I came to Basill: the thirteenth I entred Soleurre, where because I was ill at ease, *Monsieur de Vic* (your Lordships deare friend) and worthie Ambassadour of his most Christian Maiestie in affaires to the Swissers and Grisons, inforced me to stay and repose my selfe with him, vntill the sixteenth day: wherehence after the fruition of infinite courtesies I departed, passing by the Swissers, Grisons, Valtoline, and Valcamonica, I entred into Italy: the first towne I lodged in was Bresse, the next Verona, Vicence, Padua. The second of Iune I came to Venice, where without delay I hasted to visit *Monsieur Villiers* Ambassador of his excellent Maiestie. This noble gentleman I found in all respects as your Lordship had commended him to me, most reuerend for honour, vertue, and wisdom, as the world can iustly testifie. From thence I retired my selfe in his Gundelo to a friend of mine, an honourable gentleman, by whom with diuers other of my friends that came to see me, I was confirmed in my former knowledge, concerning the mishaps before rehearsed; vnderstanding in like maner, how grieuously the nobles and citizens of Venice, tooke the troubles of the worthie distressed King, ascribing the blame to the negligence of the Portugals, that vndertooke the managing of his libertie, into whose hands they had committed him safe and sound: for as much as in those Lords presence, they seemed to acknowledge him, vnder which pretence they preased before the Senate, to signifie vnto them a truth, beseeching them to allow him some other solemnitie in proceeding, then they vse to a common or priuate person, and to respect him as a King. The fourth

fourth day I returned to Padua: the seuenth I was at breakfast in Mantua, where I was well entertained by the reuerend and vertuous Prelate, the rare and honourable Lord Fr. *Francis Gonzaga*, Bishop of the said citie. And soone after I had bene in my couent, and receiued the chiefe Prelates benediction, I went to salute the Duke and the Duchesse, to whom I caried certaine letters, who receiued me with no lesse shew of account then they could haue made to an Ambassadour that had bene employed in the most Christian Kings affaires.

The selfe same day to accompanie this my glorious entertainment, the despitefull gout made a returne into my feeble limmes, and there sojourned with me seuentene or eightene dayes in the same citie. In which space I drew a tree with branches, expressing the genealogie of the house of Gonzaga; wherewith the Duke seemed so well pleased, that he gaue me a great present in gratification. I protest I should neuer haue dreamed that Mantua had bene honoured with a Prince so noble for vertue, so rare for honourable courtesie, so peerelesse for bountie, so familiar in histories, so conuersant in languages, so great a louer of rare properties, so intire a Christian. I sifted diuers of his Court as narrowly as I might possibly, and I discoered them to be true and faithfull wel-willers to our countrey of France.

On the feast day of *S. Iohn Baptist* somewhat late I set forward in my iourney towards Ferrara through Bologne: on the eight and twentieth day of the last moneth I came to Ferrara, being *S. Peters* eue: the next day being the feast day, after my morning repast, I went to the honourable Duke, deliuering him certaine letters, which he receiued with a smiling countenance, and made very faire weather to me by his honourable and courteous entertainment, so did likewise his Duchesse. All this while making no mention to me of the King, nor of the Calabrian, nor I to any man, the Duke and Duchesse seuerally demaunded of me what newes I heard of France or Lorayne, and so sleighted me off with licence to depart, saying, we will take another day fitter to handle these causes more at large: so I departed for that time. The next day following, the Duke

came into our couent of *S. Marke*, where I remained, and our Prior intreated me to beare the Prouinciall companie to entertaine his Highnesse at the Church porch: where the Duke took notice of me, and talked with me all the way passing through the entrie; and at his departure said, I will choose a more conuenient time to talke with you more at large. After breakfast I went to the Archbishop of Pisa, and deliuered him a letter frō a very friend of his, in regard wherof he did me many kind offices. And I telling him, I had vnderaken this iourney for the dispatch of businesse that concerned my order and my self particularly, (for so was the tenor of my passport) and to acquaint my selfe in the families of the Princes of Italy: after long deliberation and pausing for the space of an houre, he demaunded of me if I had not heard any speech of a Calabrian, that named him selfe *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugale: to whom I answered, that being in the court of Lorayne, I vnderstood by letters sent from Milane that there was such a counterfeit, and abuser, and that therefore I would not meddle neither with him nor his affaires. And he replied vnto me, that he thought it not amisse for me to know what passed, and was done in that businesse. When I found his purpose, I prepared my selfe to heare him as patiently as I could, and he very pleasantly began this inuectiue which followeth.

This man that would be called *Dom Sebastian*. &c. is a Calabrian, a merchant, whose name is *Marco Tullio Catizzone*, that hath both wife and children aliue, which haue bene compelled to come from Messina to go to Naples to iustifie the truth. And the same Calabrian hath had accesse to Portugal for matters of trafficke, where some religious professors of our order haue perswaded him to call and proclaime him selfe *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugale: and the Monke hath burned and branded him with hote yrons, in the same places with the like markes that *Dom Sebastian* had: and the scarre which he carieth in his arme, was forced by a gash giuen of purpose with his owne hand, and the Monke that on his head. Beside, when he was first taken he had only two crownes about him: and as soone as the Venetians discharged him, the Portugals consulted how they

they might imbarke him at Liurorne, and send him presently into France. Wherof the great Duke being speedily aduertised, caused all the passages to be laid betwixt Florence & the sea coast, that he could escape no way: and so soone as he saw himself preuented and caught, he straightway discovered his legerdmain, saying, that he was no longer able to endure those torments and grieuous imprisonments, to maintaine such foolish delusions and cosinage. Presupposed that before he made this confession, he indented to haue his life assured him, which they ascertained him of, comforting him that he should not die. And after that he was detected in Naples by the presence of his wife *Dona Paula Catizzone*, he was instantly sent into Spaine, without any violence done vnto him, and was there openly and generally shewed to all the word, to the end that the Portugals should no longer abuse him, and that it might be published to the world, that he was a very impostor, a counterfeit, and a deluder. After I heard so many foolish and grosse absurdities vttered so confidently, my very soule was so deeply plunged into extreme grieve and vexatio, that I was forced to craue pardō of that reuered lord, for not answering, being sore perplexed: knowing assuredly, that that *Marco Tullio Catizzone* died in Portugale, while he induored the dispatch of some businesse the King sent him thither about: which is euident by a letter sent from one *D. Raimond Marqueti* a Knight dwelling in Messina, by whose meanes and perswasion the King sent this *Marco* into Portugale. Which letter was sent by *Marqueti* to Venice to haue bin deliuered to *Dom Sebastian*, which came to the Venetiās hands, wherof the lords of Venice caused a copie to be taken, and the originall remaines in the custodie of one *Constantine Nicoline*, citizen and inhabitant of the same citie, wherehēce a transcript was made, which I haue about me to shew. This *Constantine* seeing the agents of Spaine to iustifie an vntruth, so impudently without blushing, saying, that the prisoner was called *Marco Catizzone*; shewed this letter openly in *S. Markes* church, to stop and confound their malice. Which letter when they had scene and perused, they were neuer afterward so bold as to prosecute the matter any further, but kept silence. Moreouer it appeared that this priso-

ner could not be *Marco Tullio* by another letter, written by the prisoner to *D. Prospero Baracca*, which he shewed me in Padua, which I craued earnestly to haue deliuered me to bring with me, but I could onely obtaine a copie thereof, which I haue also in my custody. The same is likewise testified by another letter from an Italian gentleman, attending the most Christiā king. Whosoever is desirous to see the said letter, shal find it in the beginning of the booke, called, *Admirable adventures, &c.* which was imprinted in France before I came from thence towards these parts. I haue set downe these proceedings in writing to your Lordship, to acquaint you with the forgerie and deuises of those detractors, called Castilians. Now to returne to the Archbishop of Pisa, whom I cannot but charge with great abuse, to report that those naturall markes were inseared with a hot iron, and to lay it vpon a religious Monke of mine owne order. But to set aside many reasons and proofes that might easily confute his allegations, this one shall serue to satisfie all men that haue any sparke of discretion or iudgement; It is impossible that any man should by art, force, or skil, make a mans right arme and leg bigger in all proportions, then the left; that is only reserued to God that made him.

And further, this reuerend Lord would haue perswaded me, that the religious man that so marked him was *D. Sampayo*: which was impossible to be true, for the said father neuer once saw the King since he departed from Lisbone to go into Afrike, vntill the eleuenth of December last past, when he was set at libertie by the Venetians. Beside, this *D. Sampayo* neuer knew any priuie marks of the Kings bodie vntil the yeare of our Lord 1599. that he went into Portugale to inquire of them. Hearing so many reports so much differing, and knowing how hardly this Archbishop could hide his owne errour: and considering that to answer him peremptorily, might rather hurt then further my purpose: and to saue my selfe from perill, being within his iurisdiction, I was faine to suppress my inward passions, but said vnto him: My Lord, seeing you vnderstand that the imprisonment of this man was the chiefe cause of my arriual in these parts, and as I vnderstand the honourable Knight came from

from thence, being foure times sent for by letters frō Paris to the great Duke, sithence I was in Loraine, whatsoeuer is or shall become of his perso or affaires I resolute herafter to take litle care, but meane to follow the other employment I recounted to your lordship. Notwithstanding, as one that hath some interest in the cause, I will render your Lordship my censure and resolution in a word, and make you partaker of my inward and secret contemplations. Forasmuch as your lordship hath acquainted with this impostor and deluders confession, dissimulation, and trumperies, I can do no lesse the griue thereat very much, and the rather that he escaped without punishmēt, being (as your lordship assures me he is) so vile and so notorious an offender, maruelling you would suffer so pestilent and damnable a wretch to liue, that hath bene the cause of so many mens disasters, confiscation of goods, ruines, and extinguishments, by vndertaking misadventures by sea & land, and what not indemnities for his sake, abandoning countrie, father, mother, wife, children, house and home, rest and safetie: and I wonder it pleased God to suffer such a one to be borne, that his mother in his conception, before her deliuerance, had not bene transformed into a stone, or presently bin dissolved into smoke or aire.

What vnhappy man could haue caused me to forsake my place in Paris, where I was well and quietly seated, to thrust my life into perill, but onely he? that wicked and vngodly man. I haue twise in this vnluckie iorney bene afflicted with the gout: diuers times almost ouerwhelmed with snow, drenched in waters, tormented with clambring rocks and hills, sustaining all hazards that sea and land might present me, with thunder and lightning from clouds: and is it iustice thinke you (my good Lord) that a man occasioning so many troubles, should liue unpunished? This man hath troubled me much, and grieved my very soule. This (noble Duke) might by the aprouemēt of many, haue caused him to haue bene indited, arraigned, and condemned, and haue ministred to him some extraordinarie death, to the terrible example of all others, and haue manifested the same to all the world. In my conceit, my noble Lord, this execution had bin most expedient & conuenient, to the commendation of

equitie and iustice. The Archbishop hearing these words pronounced with such vehement passion, as though my soule had giuen franke consent to my passionate vtterance, in lamentation of my hard successe, said: I am much grieved for your vexation: notwithstanding I cannot so hainously accuse nor condemne the man, but only for his folly to call himselfe *Dom Sebastian* king of Portugal: for surely he was a reuerend man for vertue and sinceritie of life. I could rather agree to accuse that Religious traitor, by whom he was first perswaded and suborned to take the name of King vpon him. These & many such like words he vsed aswell to iustifie himselfe, as to recover me out of that affliction, which he perceiued his speeches had thrust me into; but in the end I took my leaue of his Lordship, and returned to my cloister of *S. Mark*, where the religious fathers receiued with many curtesies and kind welcomes. The like entertainment I found in all other couents as I went, specially at Mantua, where I was importuned to remaine many daies. God giue me abilitie & grace to requite them, that I may not be found vnthankfull; for I assure your Lordship, I cannot expresse the merites and fauours I found at their hands, much lesse see which way I may yeeld them due recompence. From Mantua I thought best to go to Rome: in hope by the friendship of the Cardinals, and other noble Lords and Gentlemen, to find some furtherance in my affaires, to the bettering of my unhappie Princes fortunes. That he should be my very king and lord, I am greatly fortified in hope, & find many good signes and apparant arguments amongst the most serious and religious men of estimation, Princes, Lords, and others: finding it not expedient to nominate all the fauorers of this enterprise, desiring your Lordship to pardon me for not satisfying you in euery particular, concerning my successe at this time according to your request: which defects I will repaire in my intelligence from Rome, from whence I hope to send your lordship more exact aduertisements, concerning the life and successe of this Prince. Since the battell in Africke, from whence he hardly escaped by flight: with al that past here in the time of his imprisonmēt: how, in what maner, what day & houre he departed herehēce. *Fa. Seraphin Banchi* hath hitherto much assisted me in

in the businesse, & was very ioyfull of the honourable greetings from your Lordship, desiring his continuance in your honourable fauours. By his meanes I am so much furthered, as I trust to morrow morning to be dispatched hence. The Almighty blese your honourable person in all you desire. Florence the third of Iuly. 1601.

Your noble Lordships humble servant, father
Fr. IOSEPH TEXERE Portugúeze, &c.

*A Letter written by the said Fr. Texere to
the Bishop before saluted.*

IN my last Letter written to your excellent Lordship from Florence, I promised to performe as much, or rather more at my arriual at Rome; wherein I feare I shall faile (for many causes checking my will and endeouour) to keepe touch with your Lordship. First, because I came not hither so soone as I intended, being hindred by reason of my sicknesse which lengthened my iorney: for being in Viterbe, I sojourned seuen or eight dayes in the house of our Ladie *De la Quercia*, a Monasterie of our order, distant some halfe league from the towne, where God by the intercession of the Virgin doth many miracles, to the benefit of the wel-belecuers. So soone as I was entred into Rome, which was Sunday the fourteenth of Iuly, I sought out my very friend, of whom I gathered, that his Holinesse and all the Lords of the Court of Rome conceiued, and were perswaded verily, that the prisoner which the Duke of Florence caused to be sent therehence the three and twentieth of Aprill at eleuen of the clock at night, and deliuered into the hands of the gouernour of *Orbetelo*, was *D. Sebastian* the true vnfallible King of Portugal. Of him I learned, how he was conducted from *Orbetelo* to *Hercules* port, and from that port in a galley to Naples, and last to Castelnouo. This gally the enemies made the subiect, to giue notice to the whole world, that the said *Dom Sebastian* was

condemned to the gallies, and after to the castle Del ouo. Further, I was shewed the copie of a letter, which the Count of Lemos Viceroy of Naples wrote to the Duke of Sessa, Ambassadour from the King of Castile vnto his Holinesse, giuing him to vnderstand, that the same prisoner was *Dom Sebastian* the true King of Portugal. I haue also found out which of the Cardinals and Prelates fauour the cause of that vertuous and holy Prince. A friend of mine lent me his coach, wherein I went directly to the most excellent Prince, the Cardinall of Florence, and kist his hand, of whom I had the euidences your Lordship is aduised of, and after an houre and halfe conference with him, I departed in the same coach so visit sir *Alexander Giusti* Iustice de la *Roya*, our deare friend. From whom so soone as I was departed, I met neare his gate with another of my familiar acquaintance, that discouered vnto me certaine plots and circumuentions attempted and suggested by the Duke of Sessa, informing against me in the Consistorie of Rome, that I was a seditious man, prejudiciall to the state of Christendome generally: for that heretofore the Christian Princes had vsed to associate themselues in a league ioyntly to make warre against the Infidels; which I had bene a cause to hinder, by interposing diuision and contention betwixt those Princes; and as a principall reason to induce them to beleue the same: he shewed publicly the discourse which I sent your Lordship from Lions, intituled, *Admirable aduentures*, &c. which for the more familiar vnderstanding was translated into Italian and Spanish. The common dispersing of which discourse, was like to breede much dishonour and damage to *D. Philippo* the third King of Castile his maister, and so purchase vnto himselfe being his agent, infinite disgrace and harme by his displeasure. For my part I answered that I merited no punishment for traducing into writing such true acc^{ts}ents (as they were) the confirmation whereof increased with the time: considering they were not of mine owne inuention or stamping. Relinquishing this friend, I hasted straight to the Cardinall of Ossat, into whose owne hands when I had deliuered letters, and informed him thoroughly of the cause of my repaire thither: he aduised me not to shew my selfe so openly there
vntill

vntill such time as I vnderstood what my enemies had conspired to obie^{ct} against me since my entrance into this city, which could not be concealed, for that the Patriarke of Constantinople, (who was and is Generall of the Order of *S. Francis*, a Sicilian borne, and so much the more my forcible enemy, by how much he was zealous for the King of Castile his maister) had a glance of me in the Cardinall of Florence his house. My occasions detained me so long with this Cardinall till night grew on, so that his Lordship caused me to remaine with him vntill the morrow, wherehence after the hearing of his Masse, I departed to my first friends house: whither diuers persons of qualitie repaired to visit me, signifying vnto me, that the Ambassadour for Castile intended to work me all the mischief he could possible: and seeing he found no sufficient meanes to indamage me before the estate, he had a purpose to bring me within compasse of the Inquisition, alleaging these accusations that follow. First he obie^{ct}ed against me, that I had bene in England fixe or seuen yeares, and that I euer fauoured the proceedings of hereticks; that I composed diuers bookes fraught with heresies; that at Lions I made and began to imprint a booke against his Holinesse, and the Inquisitors generall of Portugale; with many other matters which I let passe for troubling your Lordship. To all which I answered without blemish to my honour or reputation, in this manner: I thanke God, all the time I was in England I liued amongst men that were religious, as mine enemies can testifie: and for my continance in France, I hope to acquite my selfe easily from misdeameure there. To the most capitall matter and of greatest importance: that I wrote and began to print a booke at Lions against his Holinesse, and the Inquisitors generall of Portugale, I can purge my selfe purely, and passe as cleare as the most vnspotted innocent, being alwayes approved religious and zealous, wherein I appeale to the sincerie of al the brethren of mine own order. In that he termes me a rebel and a traitor to the King his maister, for shewing my self seruiceable and faithfull to a forein Prince his enemy: in that he is assistant to my affaires, recommending my estimation by opening a gap, to discipher the traitorous in Portugale, backsliders, ene-

mies to their owne friends, and very Castilian hypocrites: that I am a disperfer of many lies, in conuenticles at this instant. That article is worthy of such mens preferring as they seem to be, and not fitting men of worth and louers of Religion. As it hapneth I haue the booke about me, that was printed at Lions: which shall confute and display the malice and impudencie of him that caused the rest of my bookes to be burnt. The remainder that concernes these affaires, is best knowne to your Lordship, and therefore to conclude this point, I craue pardon for being so tedious. Now to returne to my former subiect: Sunday being the 15. of Iuly, and the Monday following, after I had finished the principall part of my intention, I determined (by the counsel of my friends) to returne directly to France. And being aduertised that the Duke of Sessa had sent beforehand some of his people to way-ly me in the ordinarie way, I changed my course by Vmbrie. I departed out of Rome the fourth day after my arriual, and passing by the cities of Narne, Tarne, Spoleto, Foligni, and Assise, I came to Peruse, which I did onely passe thorough, and shaped my course by Siene, Florence, Bologna, thorough the confines of Modene and Mirandole: and before I could reach to Mantua, my horse fell vpon me, and hurt one of my legs very grieuouly, which caused me to stay in this place, where I might prouide the best meanes for my recouerie. I assure your Lordship, I tooke this mischance to be ominous, that God would haue it so, for that by my returne this by-way, I gathered some certaintie of much that happened to *Dom Sebastian* the King, since his flight out of Africke, vntill he was discharged out of this common-weale: and now I begin to make your Lordship a true relation, certaine, and without controlement. When it was spread at Rome that I remained in this town, and that by reason of my hurt I could not sodainly depart from hence; a friend of mine certified me by letteers the sixth of August, in what maner *Paula Catizzone* with her daughter arriued at Naples, being shipped from Messina by the Catholike Kings agents, to come and acknowledge this prisoner for her husband: and the said *Paula* meeting in the ship with a religious man of the order of *S. Francis*, of her acquaintance, she dicouering the cause

cause of her trauel vnto him, assuring him she knew vndoubtedly that that prisoner was not *Marco Tullio Catizzone* her husband, saying, that same prisoner that they cal *D. Sebastia* king of Portugale had sent him into Portugal, which she trusted would make wel for that prisoner, and do him no hurt at al: and that she came rather to iustifie then to condemne him. The same man, my friend promised me of particular aduertisements of whatsoever shall be effected in this businesse. I beseech you consider the cunning the Castilians vse in the expedition of their enterprises, who are both terrible and warie in all their practises. Although they know that *Marco Tullio Catizzone* died in Portugale; yet notwithstanding they continue their indirect and false course, with inuentions and sleights colouring their proiects, to seduce and blind the world. This woman a subiect of the Spanish Kings, was threatned vpon paine of death, not to hinder any of the Kings proceedings; therefore she must take vpon her to know this man, and iustifie him to be her husband *Marco Tullio*, &c. though she had neuer seene him before, be the matter neuer so false, as it is most vntue, and so proued by many reasons and letters whereof I made mention to your Lordship in my letters from Florence. I haue sent a copie to my friend in Rome to be deliuered to his Holinesse, and another to your Lordship with these presents, to controle all those that shall belye this action. Beside this testimonie there newly arriued a graue Portugal, a man of good authoritie and credit, that vnderstanding at Rome which way I was departed, tooke post horses & came after me. Beside that he was one of my old acquaintance, he brought letters in his bosome of recommendation to induce me to trust him, and that he might open his secrets vnto me, which certaine Lords of Portugale (that sent him) charged him to doe. This man named the house in which *Marco Tullio Catizzone* died, to the owner whereof he brought and deliuered certaine letters from the King, and there were counter letters written which were neuer as yet deliuered to the King. In such sort, that this falsitie, that this prisoner is *Marco Tullio Catizzone*, can by no meanes be proued, in fauour of the inuenters thereof. Now forasmuch as

from time to time I am in more liklihood to recouer this mishap: I trust I shall not haue cause to stay in this towne to write any more letters vnto you, but purpose by Gods helpe to make small delay to come my selfe to your Lordship, and excuse all other messengers. Beseeching the heavenly King to blesse your excellent lordship. From Venice the thirteenth of August, 1601.

*Most humbly at your excellent Lordships seruice,
father Fr. IOSEPH TEXERA.*

*The copie of a Letter, written by D. Raimond Marqueti,
with this inscription: To Dom Sebastian, calling
himselfe King of Portugal,
being at Venice.*

I Receiued letters from your lordship the fift of September last past, wherein I perceiue the resolution your Lordship hath taken, to commit your care and trust to *Marco Tullio Catizzone*, a man as worthie as able to manage such a businesse. Further, I render your Lordship a thousand thanks, for the good opinion and confidence you haue reposed in my person; in discharge of which trust, I will repaire my diligence, to learne newes of that *Marco Tullio*, who as yet is not returned into these quarters. But so soone as he shall, I will giue him to vnderstand, how sore your Lordship longeth for his returne: and will also aduise him to execute your commaundements in all points, with exceeding care, diligence, and secrecie; and by him I will not faile to giue your Lordship to vnderstand, that when it pleaseth your Lordship to satisfie your desire, to see this countrey (hauing already runne through the greatest part of the world) I shall procure your conference with these noble men, companions to your aduentures, which you so earnestly wish to behold, viz. the Duke of Aueyro, *Christopher de Tauara*, and the rest. If you please to send me some priuie markes or tokens, that they may repose as much confidence in me, as is necessarie for the dispatch

dispatch of your Lordships dissignes in this seruice, and any other: I intend to performe to your Lordship both diligence and secrecie. As for the letter to *Donna Paula Catizzone*, I hold it no policie to deliuer it her, considering it is a loose aduenture in such daungers to trust a woman. Neither will I neglect to be carefull for the honour of the said *Paula Catizzones* house, as your Lordship required me: and in the end the effects shall shew. To conclude, I desire your Lordship to excuse me for not vsing so reuerent a stile to your Lordship as I could wish, which I hope you conceiue I refraine to do, because I would not be discouered in your weightier affaires: holding this the best and safest course to do your seruice: wherein I beseech the Almighty God to prosper your Lordship, and grant you due successe, to whose tuition with reuerend kissing your hands a thousand times, I commit your Lordship. From Messina the eighth of October. 1598.

Dom Raimond Marqueti.

*The copie of a Letter written by Dom Sebastian King of
Portugale while he was prisoner in Venice, sent to Padua to
the most reuerend D. Prospero Baracco, Amner to the
Cathedrall Church in that towne, the originall
remaining in the hands of Sr
Georgio Bustarelli.*

Most reuerend D. *Prospero*, I am to signifie vnto your Lordship, how much I haue bene grieved for your meritlese afflictions, hauing suffered imprisonment for my sake, by the poursuite of the Castilians mine enemies. But seeing things past are irreuocable, and are onely to be ouercome with patience, considering you are not ignorant of the whole complotment. And forasmuch as I am so restrained from writing at large, that I cannot expresse vnto you my secret meaning; I onely request you to send some trustie messenger to Messina, diligently to en-

quire and search, whether *Marco Tullio Catizzone* be returned thither with any directions or not. And to that end & purpose, your reuerend Lordship may vse my name to *D. Raimond Marqueti*, to whom I wrote heretofore being at Moran, if you forget not, that I receiued also answer frō him. And this Gentleman you may informe of all that hath past since that time (if you thinke good) and when *Catizzone* shal happen to come thither, he may direct him couertly to this place, where he may secretly giue me knowledge of the expedition in my affaires. And for the loue you owe to the Almighty, faile not one whit in a businesse to me of so great importance, considering howe much it may auale, to bring my long trauailes to good end: and weying, that the Lords of Venice wil not be brought to the true period of iustice, notwithstanding I haue oftentimes labored vnto the to do me right, and make me knowne personally to the world, saying, that if they finde me not to be *D. Sebastian* king of Portugale, without fauor let them worthily punish me. For all this sute they neither yet would nor will come to the center of my iust cause, and wrongfull imprisonment, saying, that they loued not to be mocked and trifled withall, offering alwayes very readily, that if I would denie, or not professe my selfe to be *D. Sebastian &c.* they would set me at libertie, &c. Loue me still as I haue done you, & so farewell. From Venice the 15. of April 1599.

D. Sebastian King of Portugale.

*Another Letter written by the foresaid Fr. Texere
a Portugale, to the same Bishop.*

I Wrote to your excellent Lordship frō Venice the thirteenth of August, and departed thence the eighteenth of the same, being then not thoroughly well: for which reason I made the way more long and tedious then I purposed. I staid many daies at Soleurre, because *Monsieur de Vic* would not let me passe, vntill *Monsieur de Sillery* came to towne. After whose comming he

he stayed me to see the order of that Towne, in entertaining the Cantons and other prouincials at their first feast: and this commaundement I could not well disobey. This importunitie and such other were the impediments, that I could not reach vnto Paris before the fourteenth of October. Then presently I went to Fontaine Bleau, to kisse his most Christian Maiesties hand; who entertained me verie princely, shewing himselfe glad of my safe returne. For to tell you true, I had no assured being, but in Fraunce (so offensue and dangerous was the Spanish indignation vnto me). At my returne from Fontaine Bleau, I met with your Lordships Aduocate agent, praying him to giue your Lordship aduertisement of my returne: promising to write vnto your Lordship shortly after: which I did not effect, partly for mine vnapt disposition, being vexed with slanderous lyes and tales, which mine enemies found occasion to spreade in my absence. Who for the satisfaction of their malice, hauing neither care of the law of God, nor of his feare, sticke not to suppress any troth, to further the confusion of their neighbour, or Christian brother. And to gorge their wicked appetits, respect neither the honor of the King, his safetie, nor the fiering of Portugale, which they had lately kindled and disturbed: and more then that, being blinded in furie themselves, thinke no man else can perceiue their intents, be the matter neuer so plaine and manifest. But of this theame let this suffice, considering your L. is not ignorant of Castilian broiles.

At my first entrance into this place, I found certaine letters written from Rome, Venice, Padua. and other ordinarie passages in Italy; all which gaue me credible intelligence, that the King my Lord and maister liues, and that he is well intreated, in prison in the Castell De Ouo. And my Romaine friend, being ioyfull of my good newes, wrote vnto me in this forme following: *Forasmuch as your afflictions, daungers, and trauailes haue receiued some hope of good euent, and for that it is certaine, that the troubles of those that feare God, shall be conuerted into prosperitie, so it may fall out, that Hac olim meminisse iuuabit.* These words and tidings seemed very common and vulgar; which being conferred with those things that fel out happily in Rome, for the good

of my Soueraigne, I conceiued great hope, yet once again to see him reestablished in his kingdome. By the same letter I vnderstand, that my intelligence hath bred him great contentment, and that also he conceiued no lesse pleasure by those copies which I sent him, to present vnto his Highnesse: which were the transcripts of those I sent your Lordship from Venice, which proue that *Marco Tullio Catizzone* is one, and *Dom Sebastian* another. A Doctor and a friend of mine dwelling at Lions, shewed me a letter which a French gentleman his inward friend, of good calling dwelling in Rome, after he had recorded many things concerning the King my maister, reuealed as followeth. The Count of Lemos Viceroy of Naples, is very fauourable to Dom Sebastian his prisoner, honouring him very much, allowing him some small libertie: which when he heard that the King of Castile tooke in ill part, he began presently to restraine and kept him shorter. When he was allowed to heare Masse amongst other prisoners, they did honor him with much reuerence, saying among themselues, that they discovered in his countenance and cariage, a princely Maiestie. And without all question, he must needs be Dom Sebastian the King of Portugale, or some diuell in his likenesse. The Viceroy (as it is said) craved licence of the King of Castil, to go into Spaine, because in Naples he could not recouer his health, which the King would in no wise grant him. There be other letters sent into these parts, not from Portugals, or any other by their appointment, the contents whereof are here expresse. Heretofore it hath bene lawfull and tollerable for this prisoner that termed himselfe D. Sebastian King of Portugale, to speake with any Portugals or men of other nations, that desired to see the said prisoner, that said they had seene him before: and sithence they verified him to be Dom Sebastian the true king of Portugal, he is more straightly kept from the sight and speech of any then before. Another letter (hauing recounted something concerning this King) addeth: The Count Lemos lying in his death bed about the last of October, said to his sonne in the presence of his wife and diuers other prisoners, that he should looke well to the place and charge he had, both of the Viceroyship and his prisoners: for you see (said he) that I am vpon the point to go to God, to render account for that I haue done during my life: and here I must cease
and

and end my worldly businesse: for the disburdening of my soule and conscience, I protest that this prisoner here, whom the vulgar call a Calabrian, is the very true Dom Sebastian, lawfull King of Portugale. I know it assuredly, hauing examined him, and for that I haue had often conference with him before his imprisonment. Therefore I commaund and intreat you to vse him well. This done, he gaue him a letter, which (said he) is written to his Maiestie, I meane the Catholicke King, touching these affaires, and vse all the diligence you can in these things I haue giuen you in charge. The father being dead, the sonne respected the prisoner with much more reuerence then he did before, but allowed him lesse libertie then he had in the old Counts life. I haue also two letters from Doctor Sampayo, the one bearing date the 18 of Nouember, the other the fourth of December, which confirme the same contents before mentioned. There be many other letters here lately sent from Portugals to the same purpose, reinforcing the truth: and here lately past a Portugall by this towne, that protesteth he spake with Dom Sebastian, declaring markes and tokens of his apparell, chamber, and bed, and other appertenances. The same Portugall said further, the King inquired of him for certaine persons, which this partie being then but yong, could not remember, and therefore gaue him no direct answer. We haue here many rumours from diuers places neare about. One wrote out of Portugale, which diuers other comming from thence confirme, that vpon S. Anthonies day of Padua the last yeare, they rong the great bell at Villila in Arragone in the city of Coimbre, an vniuersity of Portugale, where befell a very admirable and rare wonder. In the same towne there is a couent of Canons regulars, of the order of S. Augustine, sincerely reformed, great and rich, in the which is interred the bodie of D. Alphonse Henriques, the first King of Portugale, whom they adore for a Saint. In whose behalfe (they say) God hath shewed some miracles vnto men, to cōfirme their opinion of him, that they beleue not amisse. Many religious men for this foure hundred yeares space successiue continuing this Saint for their intercessor to God, (ut ferunt) haue obtained much releefe and consolation in their afflictions, as wel strangers as the naturall countymen; and to this effect they haue a booke

written, recording all the benefits receiued thereby: so that this house neuer harboured any other, then those that were deuoted to this holy King. The last yeare an old man (whom age had made feeble and decrepit) vsed euer to kneele down and pray at the sepulcher of the said King: and vpon S. *Anthones* day the last yeare, he there in happie time offered his solemne prayers, and continued a long time in meditation before the sepulcher, where he remained vntill he was stiffe, and not able of him selfe to rise, but by the assistance of his iuniors and religious brethren, who beholding all his face bedewd with teares, demanded of him how it came to passe. This old man answered, I am very much displeased and grieued at the negligence of our Kings and Princes of Portugale, as well dead as liuing, I meane descending from this holy King, that being assured by infinite miracles that he is in heauen in eternall glorie, and liues in the presence of God, and we neuer yet knew any man that trauelled to canonize him. To who one or two answered, That houre shal come. And father, seeing your deuotion and loue is so great to this holy King, beseech him to be a mediator for the libertie of *Dom Sebastian* (descending of his masculine line) that he may be restored to his former dignities and Realmes; and that good deed will cause him to be canonized.

We haue heard lately more reports by the passengers from Italy and France, that he whom the Venetians imprisoned and released the last yeare, is *Dom Sebastian* our true King and Lord, and that he seemes no whit to degenerate from the steps and traces of his auncestors.

As those religious men were aduising and contemplating vpon the vision of this *Alphonse*, which was mentioned in the *Admirable aduventure*, &c. and considering the promise God made vnto him, whē he appeared vnto him in the field Orique, the sepulcher resounded vnto them three strokes, hearing the echo with abilitie to iudge frō whence the noise came. The sound being past, they approached nearer vnto the tombe, continuing their discourse; and sodainly againe the tombe gaue three other great blows, so terrible that they were forced to recule for feare, and the echo continued so long that they all were amazed, and became

became as pale and wan, as men vse to be in the horror of death. When afterward they came to themselues, recovering their senses and perfect vnderstanding, and conceiued that it came by the oldmans praier, they went and reuealed this accident to the Bishop of that citie, who in all the time of treatie betweene Portugale and the King of Castile, approoued himselfe as ranke a traitor to his countrey, as he proued true seruant to the King of Spaine: who for his recompence was established in that sea, and created Bishop of Coimbre, Count of Arganill, &c. with 50000 duckets of yearely annuitie. This Bishop aduertised of the noise, came to the Couent and made inquisition, and finding it a thing so extraordinary, said: You Portugals that wonder at these toies, and giue credite to bables, know that the soule of this Saint, being aloft in glory, is so sore offended with you, that God suffereth these senselesse monuments, to giue testimonie of your sopperies. These words were so ill taken by the people of the town assembled about that strange noise, that the Bishop was constrained to vnsway that he had said, and to confesse it was very wonderfull.

Furthermore, there are many letters come of late from Portugale, that testifie, that at Lisbone the last of October in the yeare 1601. the Church and hospitall of the King, (called all Saints) sodainly fell on fire by night, and flamed so furiously, that the rooffe was burnt, and all the images of the Kings of Portugal that were painted vpon the wall (only the pourtrait of *D. Sebastian*) was left vndefaced. The selfesame ruine happened to the armes of the Kings and Princes of Portugal, which were drawn in scutchions vpo the wall. The day following being the feast of all Saints, in the forenoone fell an infinite number of hailstones as big as small egges, red of colour, which bred as great cause of wonder, as the raine that fell the day following, which was so extreme, that (as I haue heard credibly reported by many) the people of that towne durst not go out of their doores all that day, for feare of drowning. These things to me (as well as to others) I assure your Lordship seeme maruellous, and can find no reason of their rarenesse: God of his diuine mercie turne them to good. I could haue written to your Lordship more newes of great consequence, if my paper had not bin

iniurious. But now to returne to our first subiect, which I wil intirely deliuer vnto your Lordship, & seeing I haue recovered my strength, I will proceed to declare vnto you the successe of D. Sebastian King of Portugale, since his escape from the battell in Africke: which I intreat your Lordship to cause to be imprinted, that all Princes may haue free knowledge of the historie. Paris the twelfth of Ianuarie 1602.

Immediately after my last writing, I receiued letters from my friends at Venice and Padua, by which I vnderstand, the Agent of that signiorie (being resident in the Catholike Kings Court) hath written a letter to that State, which hath bin opely read at Pregay, part of the contents whereof are: *That the Count Lemos Viceroy of Naples, before his death wrote a letter to the King his maister, wherein he did assure him, that that prisoner which he caused to be sent him from the Duke of Tuscane, under the name and title of a Calabrian, was Dom Sebastian the very true King of Portugale, which in the yeare 1578. lost the battell in Africke: which he affirmed with many assured reasons, and trials as hauing thoroughly examined him of diuers things wherein he had dealt with him both in Portugale and Castile. This Viceroy neuer receiued answer of this letter, in his life: and therefore (being then almost at the last gaspe) for the disburdening of his soule, he detected this secret to his sonne that succeeds in his place, in the presence of his wife, his confessor, and diuers other persons of good account, giuing him also a letter for the King, wherein is ratified the same he spake before. The new Viceroy sent to the Catholike king, a noble man of the house of Manriques, of whose house proceeded the Dukes of Najara. This Siegnior he sent with his fathers letter, & it is reported that the King returned answer of the same letter to the Count Lemos, commanding him to intreat that prisoner well, and take especial care that no disaster chanced vnto him. These news informed me to inlarge this treatise, I would to God they were like to be true, and that the Catholike King would answer his title with due correspondēcy to Christianitie, according to his Christian stile, by yeelding libertie to his Cousin-germaine, and restoring all that to him belongeth: which were an excellēt branch of honour and magnanimitie, and an assured meane to settle Christendome*

stendome in peace, and to auoide the daunger of present warre, which now the lowring heauens, and malicious inclination of starres do assure vs to fall vpon vs. I confesse, that so many extraordinary accidents do perswade me to expect a good issue out of all these troubles, that may be both happie and profitable to the whole common-weale of Christendome. Pleaseth it your Lordship to remember that about the infancie of our amitie, I said that if the Portugals and the Castilians be not separated, it will be impossible to maintaine a generall peace in Europe: iustifying my opinion, with many euident demonstrations, and yet to this day I hold the same resolution, in which many noble men both of the counsell and others of great calling do accord, saying, They from day to day see more apparant reasons so to iudge. To that end do I dayly offer vp my sacrifices and earnest prayers to intreate the Almighty God, that it may please him of his diuine mercie, to inspire the hearts of all Christian Princes, to combine in one knot to set this cause aright, before the increase of more mischief: for, so much the longer as they deferre this good worke, so much the greater will be the ruine of Portugale, and perill of our vniuersall destruction.

Your noble Lordships humble seruant,
FR. IOSEPH TEXERE Portuguez.



A NARRATION OF THINGS DONE BY DOM SEBASTIAN KING OF PORTVGL,

since the battell he lost in the fields of Alquier in
Africke, fighting against Muley Maluco
an Infidell, anno 1578. vntill
this present time.

Written by Fr. Ioseph Texere Portuguez.

The Preface.



Entle Reader, forasmuch as I haue done you the
fauour by my trauell to discover in writing vnto
you a Peregrination so much desired: I shall in-
treat the like of you againe, in giuing credite to
that I will most faithfully deliuer vnto you, con-
cerning the naturall inclination of the Portugals,
and the disposition of the King.

The Portugals haue two speciall qualities, happily differing from
other nations, which are as familiar to them, as to laugh is proper to
all men. The first is, they are extremely scrupulous of conscience:
the second, they are exceeding constant in their resolutions, especially
when they are assured that they are warranted by the law of God, and
concerne his glorie: for the first I will recommend vnto your iudge-
ments two examples. The first, after the death of D. Henry supposed
King of Portugale, the succession of that kingdome being left to the
inheritance of women, came directly to D. Katherine Duchesse of
Bragance, daughter to the sonne of D. Duarte, brother germane to
the said Henry: who caused her title to be disputed of in the Uni-
uersitie of Coimbre, which disputation was published in print, and
compiled

compiled in a booke confirmed by the hands of foureteene Doctors,
subscribing thereunto: all whose sentences were pronounced in the
fauour of the said Katherine. The like censure was exhibited by the
Doctors of Bologne, Pisa, & other vniuersities in that part of Europe,
the succession of the said Realme of Portugale, being adiudged to the
same Katherine, & D. Iohn Duke of Bragance, her husband & cosin
germaine: by reason whereof (while the Cardinal lived being induced,
or rather informed by the Agents of D. Philip the second King of
Castile, not to publish the said D. Katherine to be his heire, did re-
sist the publication, pretending that D. Katherine, D. Anthonie,
and D. Philippo, being all at once with other competitors to the
crowne, might set some variance among the people about the title,
leaving it to be censured after his death by certaine Iudges that he
had appointed and named) he sware to stand to the sentence of
those Iudges, and would not pronounce him King of Portugale him-
selfe, but said it might be a meanes for him to come to the best assu-
rance of the enterprise before any other: for that he had on his part,
not onely the most of the Princes of Portugale, descending from that
line, but also many cities and townes in that Realme, whereof he was
owner and Lord, being aboue fifty with castles, beside the citie of Bra-
gance, and had vnder his gouernement aboue two hundred thousand
subiects of account, by reason whereof he was the greatest and the ri-
cheest Prince subiect, among the Christian Princes of Europe. Con-
sidering withall, that out of the citie of Bragance, and two other
townes called Chanes, which the Romaines termed AEquas Flauas,
he was able to make, and bring into the field thirtie thousand men,
betweene the age of siue and twentie and fiftie yeeres. And it is to be
noted, that the men bred in those parts be hard and valiant souldi-
ers, and haue bene so approued in the battels and victories which the
Portugals haue had against the Spaniards, by whom they haue bene
often vanquished in ranged battels. This Princes nice conscience, was
the cause why he extended not his force to defend his right, but with-
drew himselfe into a corner, without purpose or intent to marrie ei-
ther one or the other: by which means he left the crowne to him in the
right of his late wife, and his life in short time after.

The second example.

The Lord D. Antonio, the Prior of Crato, likewise supposed king

of Portugale, by reason of his oath at Santaren, where he was chosen, and after at Lisbon, in which election he was confirmed by the Deputies of the cities and townes of the kingdome, promised by oath that he would make no bargaine or agreement with any of their enemies, but leaue the same Realme at libertie. The Catholike King D. Philippo offered to make him Viceroy of Naples for his life time, with foure hundred thousand duckets of yearely rent, and the bestowing of certaine offices and benefites, and fiftie thousand duckets presently to pay his debts to go into Italy: and likewise to restore to their former state, dignitie, houses, and goods, those persons from whom they haue bene confiscated by his occasion, and to giue both honour and riches to all them that should accompanie and attend upon him, according to euery mans place and calling; upon condition he would renounce and disclaime all his right and interest in the kingdome of Portugale, by vertue of their election: and if withal he would sweare neuer to giue attention to any, that might perswade him to the contrary. His answer was to all these great offers: That his conscience bound him to do nothing preiudiciall to the contract he had already made, and that he had rather liue poorely and die miserably in a simple chamber with credite, performing the dutie of a good Christian, then to liue in great pompe and pride, in sumptuous pallaces, disclaiming the law and commaundements of God.

Courteous Reader, no man can speake so assuredly, or so sensibly in this matter as I: for in the yeare 1582. upon S. Augustines day, being prisoner at Lisbon, D. Christopher de Nora (for that time appointed Viceroy of Portugal, with whom his Catholike M. sent a gentlemā of his chamber for me) assured me, that I might talke with him as boldly as with himself, telling me that the king meant to employ me to D. Antonio about these affaires. This was not then effected, for that I escaped out of prison: since when, in this country & in England, I conferred with him diuers times about this businesse being his confessor, who often said unto me, God forbid I should do a thing so contrarie to my conscience: if I should (said he) I perswade my selfe that euery chinke or furrow in the ground would open and swallow me up presently, by reason of that offence. God first I desire, to take away my life: I had rather liue laden with afflictions, accompanied with miserie and beggarie, reseruing my serious and publike promise, then to leade a periuied life

life in great prosperitie, pleasures, and delights. Thus he died, obtaining (as I thinke) for the preservation of his integritie, as well reputation among Christian men, as recompence at Gods hand, desiring alwayes to liue and rest in peace: and in regard of his small ambition, could haue contented himselfe with the tenth part of the King his cosins offer, had it not bene for the respect to his oath at their election: and could haue found in his heart, to haue quitted the right and claime he had by his father, while the right was in him, but could not dispense with the oath they bound him with when they elected him, hauing power to do the first, but not the second.

This is sufficient (as I take it gentle Reader) to proue vnto you my first proposition, That the Portugals dwell upon the seueritie of their conscience. Now comming to proue the second, which is, That they are most constant in their designs, when they resolute to build upon the true law of God, and his honour, I am to intreate you to defend me against the murmurers, our enemies in two respects: that is to say, not onely in the principall point that shall concerne our subiect, but that they may become censurers of me and of the cause, saying, That in the first historie of two, I spake not religiously, and that I giue cause of offence to the Kings and Princes of Europe, or that I incite you to take armes against them. To the first obiection I answer, that when a person of what estate soeuer he be, deliuer any thing to good purpose, or utter by chance that which is come to passe; in that he offends not, being thereunto obliged in dutie and conscience. As for the second, where they suggest that I transgresse against Christian Princes, they are much deceiued: for though a man make fine gold into a chaine, yet for all that it looseth neither the beautie nor reputation of gold, nor the name of the most excellent metall of all others: so let it be supposed that a man descended of a princely race, become a meane subiect, yet cannot any man say, he looseth by his deiection of fortune his Nobilitie that came by nature: for Dauids sheepe-hooke was no disgrace to the Scepter of Iuda, nor Iulians wallet, nor the halter of Gratian father to Valentine, were any blemish to the imperiall Crowne. Therefore I conclude, that no man can accuse me of rashnesse in the narration of my historie, speaking to a good end accidentally, though I proue that many Kings and Princes of Europe, haue bene deriued out of meane

or vulgar houses.

The Chronicles of Portugale offer unto vs among the traditions of our auncestors, a notable historie well worthe the reporting and observing. In Portugale in the Prouince of Alentejo, otherwise called Translayana, there is a towne called Veyros, by estimation about the bignes of Manto upon Seine, situate upon a mountaine, at the foote whereof Westward, there runnes a riuer which hath the beginning from the North part, the current passing into the South. Not far fro that town vpon the highest part of a litle mountaine, regarding the West for the most part, this riuer seemes to haue an issue towards the East; and there is a foord where men are constrained to passe, vnder this promontorie: the riuer hath made a sandy shallow place, as it were knee-deepe, where the women inhabiting the said towne vse to wash their linnen, maides as well noble as vulgar. It fell out vpon a day that D. Iohn naturall sonne to the King of Portugale, was to passe by that point with D. Petro Iusticier & great Maister ouerscer of the cities, and by reason of that office was indued with spirituall and temporall honour and authoritie. He being a yong and lustie gallant, and gouernour of the same towne, beholding these maidens with their clothes trust up as women vse going about that labour, this noble man began to ieast with the rest of his companie at the bare-legged wenches, and passing by them, some part of his traine yet to come, one wench amongst the rest (as the historie reporteth) in a red peticote, as she was tucking up her clothes, discovered her legs somewhat high, and giuing her selfe a clap with her hand on the calfe of her right leg, said aloud, Here is a white leg (girlies) for the master of Auiz. Which being overheard by some of his followers, whom she tooke no heed of, hearing and seeing what the wench had both said and done, came no sooner into their Lords lodging, but they reported vnto him what they had heard a youngfrolike wench say, and scene her do. Wherewithall this noble gallant being stirred, sent for her presently, and finding meanes to haue her secretly, vpon her begot a sonne. And this maide was a shoemakers daughter of that town, very rich and of good account, who vnderstanding that his daughter was sent for to such a noble man, and being informed that her owne speech and light behavior was the first cause, and being assured she was deflowred by her owne franke consent: took it so kingly, that at her return home, he reuiled her with most opprobrious

opprobrious and despitfull words, and beate her out of his doores openly: and to manifest vnto the world, how much he was inwardly vexed with the spoile of his daughter, he neuer after would eate at any table, nor sleepe in a bed, nor put on any shirt, neuer pared his nails, pol'd his haire, nor cut his beard, which grew so long, that the people called him Barbadon, for it continued vncut till it reached beneath his knees. This malcontent liued so long that his grand child, called D. Alphonse grew to be a man, and Duke of Bragance (created by the great Auize maister his father who by the election of the people, afterward became King of Portugale, and for his worthe acts, was surnamed memorable) and Barcellos by the right of his wife, the sole daughter, and inheritor to the Constable of Portugale. This towne of Veyros, stads betweene 7 or 8 other towns belonging to the said Duke and is distant but foure leagues from Villa Rica, where his pallace is. This vicinitie was the cause that he had perfect intelligence of the shoemaker his grandfather, & the reports he heard of him, made him so desirous to see him, that he determined to go seeke him out himself in his owne town: where meeting him in the streets, he alighted fro his horse, and kneeled downe before him bare-headed, and desired him to giue him his hand and his blessing withall. The shoemaker hauing an eye to the Dukes traine that attended vpon him, and seeing his base humblenesse, and hearing his speeches, amazedly conceiued him to be some great personage, vnkowne to him, said: Sir, do you mocke me? The Duke answered, So God help me I do not: but in earnest I craue I may kisse your hand, and receiue your blessing, for I am your grand child, and sonne to Ines your daughter, conceiued by the King my Lord and father. Assoone as the shoemaker heard these sayings, he clapped his hand before his eyes, and said: God blesse me from euer beholding the sonne of so wicked a daughter, as mine was. Yet forasmuch as you are not guiltie of her offence, hold, take my hand and my blessing, in the name of the father, &c. But neither the Duke nor his followers could perswade him to pull away the hand that couered his eyes, so confident this old man was in his discontentment: neither would he talke any longer with the Duke. Shortly after, this old man died, and before his death, he tooke order for a tombe to couer him, whereupon he commaunded to be ingrauen all manner of tooles that belonged to a shoemaker, with this Epitaph.

This sepulcher *Barbadon* caused to be made
(Being of Veyros, a shoemaker by his trade)
For himselfe, and the rest of his race,
Excepting his daughter *Ines* in any case.

I haue heard it reported by the ancientest persons, that the fourth Duke of Bragance, D. Iames sonne to Donna Isabel (sister to the king, D. Emmanuel) caused that tombe to be defaced, being the sepulcher of his fourth grandfather.

As for the daughter, after she was deliuered of that son, continued a very chaste and vertuous woman all her life, and the king made her Commandresse of Santos, a most honorable place, and very plentiful to them which none but Princesses are admitted, living as it were Abbesses and Princesses of a Monastery, builded without the walles of Lisbon, called Santos (that is, Saints) founded by reason of some Martyrs that were there martyred. And the religious women of that place haue libertie to marrie with the Knights of their order, before they enter into that holy profession: the order is called S. Iames, bearing the same Crosse. In this Monasterie the same Donna Ines died, leaving behind her a glorious reputation for her vertue and holinesse. Obserue (gentle Reader) the constancie that this Portugale, a shoemaker continued in, lothing to behold the honourable estate of his grand child, nor would any more acknowledge his daughter, having bene a leud woman, so purchasing advancement with dishonour. This considered, you will not wonder at the Count Iulian, that plagued Spaine, and executed the King Rodrico for forcing his daughter la Caua.

The example of this shoemaker is especially worthie the noting, and deeply to be considered: for beside that it makes good our assertion, it teaches the higher not to disdain the lower, as long as they be vertuous and louers of honour. It may be, that this old man for his integrity rising from a vertuous zeale, merited, that a daughter coming by descent from his grand child should be made Queene of Castile, and the mother of great Isabell grandmother to two Emperours, Charles the fifth, and Ferdinando; and confute the prouerbe in Spaine:

De cien en cien años los Reyes villanos:
Y de ciento en seyes los villanos Reyes. which is,

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From a hundred to a hundred yeares Kings become villains: and from a hundred to sixe, villaines become Kings: so here the plough was conuerted into the Scepter, in lesse then three score and ten yeares.

For the prooffe of my second proposition, I must necessarily referre you to the historie expressed in the discourse of the twelfth letter, intituled: Admirable aduentures, &c. concerning Dom Sebastian the true and lawfull King of Portugale: where it is reported of D. Alphonse the African (King of Portugale) that seeing King Lewis the sixth deluded him, in not giuing him aid according to his promise made at the beginning, when he first arriued in France (by which means for two yeares space he left Portugale, not being able for want of power to bring his purpose to any good passe, for his returne being ashamed to be seene of the Portugals, for that he lost a battell against the Castilians) determined with himselfe to steale as vnknowne out of France secretly, and place himselfe in a Monastery neare unto Rome. And to effect that dissigne he disguised himselfe in a strange habite, taking with him but two of his people to accompanie him: but he and they were intercepted and taken by the way by Robinet (termed the Oxe of Normandy): which Philippus Comineus also confirmeth with this addition, that king Lewis was much offended with Robinet for that peece of seruice: forcing him to supply him with an armie & embark him for Portugale, where he ended his life, as I haue already more at large declared unto you elsewhere.

That which I haue said (gentle Reader) I thinke to be sufficient, to acquaint you with the naturall disposition of Portugales. And to induce you to beleue what likewise hath bin verified concerning D. Sebastian my Lord and Maister, it is conuenient for you to know, that he resolved neuer to discouer himselfe, or to make it apparant to any man, what he was; but was fully perswaded to passe the rest of his time uncothly, and so to finish his life in silence: because he wilfully tooke upon him (contrary to the aduice of Xarifa, and all the Princes, Lords, and Commanders that accompanied him, to giue battell to Muley Maluco, in the houre, the day and place, that in their indgement was not thought fit for his aduantage: and the King acknowledging his error and oversight he committed that day, so afflicted his soule, that the memorie thereof bred him more inward torment and vexation, then any misfortune that euer befell him in all his wofull

dayes. For the confirmation whereof, I will giue you to understand (courteous Reader) what I heard an old man say, being a man of great authority; an ordinary assistant, and a common relieuer of afflicted persons be they neuer so abiect, and a Religious man of mine owne Order, and Archbishop of Spalato, a Venetian borne, a maintainer and supporter of truth; who during this Realmes last troubles, wrote in the behalf of his Christian Maiestie. This reuerend Prelat, while I lay sicke in his house, distant some halfe league from Venice, sitting by my bed side, said vnto me: In this very selfe same bed lay D. Sebastian your King, tormented with a feauer, before his imprisonment in Venice, at which time in my hearing, a father of the Order of S. Bernard, a Doctor in Diuinitie, very famous for his profession, intreated him to tell him how it came to passe that he lost the battell in Africa: and because the King condescended not to his demand, he reiterated the same againe. Then suddenly I beheld teares gushing from his eyes as big as pease, and in such abundance, as they did wet not onely his handkercher, but his shirt, the sheete, and a silke quilt that laye upon him. This passion was without weeping or sobbing, for that he neuer could do, but euer shewed himselfe all one, no changeling, come prosperity or aduersity. At length he requested vs instantly, to use some other communication, saying, The remembrance of that intollerable mishap, was to him such a torment, as it deprived him of reason and iudgement, and made him desire to abandon both the sight and conuersation of all men. All this griefe could not supplant his sicknesse, which persecuted him so sore, as he was out of hope or care of his recovery: oft tempting him to end his misery with his owne hands. I considered it was great inhumanity to adde a torment to his affliction, in seeking to extract that from his knowledge, which his extreme sorrow would not giue his tongue leaue to utter: so I desired the noble man to depart with me, and giue him time to rest a while: for that the night before he had slept very little or not at all. To conclude, the shame and griefe he sustained inwardly by his rash attempt, as is before rehearsed, committing so great an error, and so preiudiciall to Christianitie, enforced him to obscure and hide himselfe from all his acquaintance and familiars: imitating Alphonso his predecessor, both in temeritie and repentance: or to equall Boleslaus king of Poland, who to kill Stanislaus the Bishop of Cracouia, left

left both his Crowne and Scepter, and retired himselfe into Hungary, where some say within few yeares after the execution of his bloudie purpose, he slue himselfe. Others say, that he was deuoured with dogs in a forest: but the most certaine report saith, that he serued a Cooke in a Monasterie at Carinthia (called Oha) a litle distant from the towne named Felikirchen: and after the sufferance of many troubles and trauels he died, and was knowne by a writing which was found in his bosome, the content whereof was: I am Bolislaus sometime King of Poland, that slue Stanislaus Bishop of Cracouia. In the same maner I beleene had Dom Sebastian the King of Portugale died, had he not bene a religious man, bound in conscience to shew and reueale himselfe, and take paines to seeke to be restored to his former rights and dignities, so prouoked to do by secret illumination from God himselfe, who otherwise had resolved to end his life in an hermitage: which intent he manifested in certaine Italian verses composed by him while he was in prison in Venice, which I haue about me, uttering all his successe sithence he lost the battell in Africke, &c. There were foure examiners appointed by the Senate to attend that businesse all the time of his imprisonment there, which examinations and verses he sent inclosed in a letter to his Holinesse, which also are in custodie. The Advocate, Iudge, Counsellor, and Inquisitor testifie, that he gaue them a princely, sententious, and a pithie answer, rehearsing all things that had past concerning himselfe and others, since that battell in Africke, with the names of the Generals, Colonies, Captaines, Lords, and Gentlemen, that accompanied him in that action: the number and the diuersities of nations, the day, the houre, the situation of the place, where it was fought; how and in what manner he escaped.

I am againe to intreat you friendly Reader, to giue credite to that I shall report vnto you, and not to measure the nature of Portugals by the light and leud dispositions of other nations.

When I was in England with D. Antonie, the putatife King of Portugal, as I told you before, I was solicited by Fr. Diego of Chaves, a professor of mine owne order, with great importunacie to relinquish and giue ouer this S^d D. Antonio, and incline towards his Catholike Maiestie, whose confessor this Diego was, and his sole Gouvernor: assuring me, that if I would yeeld to his request, I should be very bounti-

fully rewarded; & wrote vnto me most confidently, that my entertainment should not want one mite of 25 or 30000 ducketts yearely in reuenuue to be duely paid, which allowance would not only serue copetently to maintaine me in honorabl estate, but I might also deduct a surplussage therehence, to enrich my kindred and friends withall, who also the king promised to prefer & aduance for my sake, (this Confessor was my mothers cosin-germaine) assuring me that all my actions, intents, and purposes whatsoeuer, preiudiciall to his Catholike Maiestie, should be quite buried in obliuion, and no blame for any inuectiues or writings in derogation of his Maiestie should be once obiected against me. And to the end I might the rather yeeld vnto him, he recapitulated all the particular offices and fauours he had performed in my behalfe at the time of my imprisonment; that he purchased my deliuerance, & saued me from being adiudged to the gallies, and also preuented me from being stretched vpon the racke; and further, obtained pardon of his Maiestie for Emanuel Texere my vnkle, that was condemned to loose his head; and caused all his goods to be restored, that were confiscate, for being in employment with D. Antonio against the king: and when he could not obtaine a graunt at my hands of that which he demaunded himself, he incited my friends and acquaintance to do their uttermost, to win me from my constant resolution, hoping in regard of the great distance and separation from my countrey, and what by the want and necessitie I endured in France, with my aged constitution of bodie, I would retire from that place and end my age in Portugal, where I began my youth: attempting afterward by ratiug & reuiling to make me recant, when other prouocations would not preuaile. All which inticements mixt with bitter taunts, moued me nothing at all: and at this instant if I would vouchsafe acceptance, I might receiue the same entertainment before offered. It is not yet two yeares past sithence a very deare friend of mine in this towne prest me with vehement perswasions to returne into Portugale, assuring me of as much aduancement there as I would desire: but God forbid, that euer I should accept it, for I had rather be a poore religious beggar in France, then a great discontented Bishop in Castile, or in Portugale: considering the countrey is not it selfe, but in bondage, most seruilly subiect to Castilian tyrannie. In this towne a nobleman of France, in the presence of diuers Princes of the Bloud, accompanied with some religious men of mine

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owne order, often perswaded me to leaue the habit of S. Dominicke, and betake me to another, assuring me in lieu thereof an Abbey (which he had in his power at that time to giue) & afterward a couet of 8 or 9 thousand liuers annuall rent: and to make me capable thereof, he promised to procure me a dispensation from his Holinesse, to allow the exchange of my present habite. All which bountifull proffers could not once moue me to change my shape, like a mutable weather-cocke, or an airie Camelion. For if the spirit of God forsake me not, I will die as I haue liued, a religious votarie to S. Dominicke, and a naturall Portugale: and the same blessed stabilitie possesse all those that seeke and spread my reproch and defamation; and to those that make a scorne of me, I answer nothing, but that I am a true religious Portugale, of the same disposition that other my countrymen be: I meane the godly, vertuous, and loyall Portugals. Neither wil I admit any for my associates in this case, but such as be most intirely sincere and constant. So I end my present narration in the name of God, and purpose to proceed to the handling of my promised discourse: which, albest I cannot so exactly relate, as I desire (not being an eye-witnes of all that hath bene done and suffered by this miserable king my Lord and master) I haue gathered out of the greatest probabilities and assertions of the iustest and honestest, that I could possibly learne or understand, that were able to giue me the best intelligence: which diligence I was bound in dutie and conscience to exercise, and am withall inforced by the importunitie of many (meeting me in the towne and field at every corner) to discourse vnto them my maisters aduentures. Therefore to satisfie them and all the world, and to meete with their tedious inquisitions, I haue effected this collection, to rid my selfe of trouble, and to quench their inordinate thirst after the truth, referring all that can reade, to this and my former discourse of Admirable aduentures.

Farewell.

The Narration.

AT my being in Venice (gentle Reader) I vnderstood by diuerse, that the opinion conceiued of many, and the rumor commonly spread concerning the death of *Dom Sebastian* the king of Portugal, my Lord and Maister, was false: and beleueed rather, that their reports were more like to be true, that maintained the contrarie. For that it was confidently iustified by credible persons, that he was seene aliue and safe since the battell in Africke: namely, by *Cide Albequerine*, *Emanuel Texer* my Vncle, *N. Murselo Higuera*, and many other Gentlemen and personages of great qualitie and account. He escaped by flight among the route, being sore hurt in his head and in one arme, and passed as a priuate man to his ships, and was embarked amongst the remnant of his armie, that saued themselves by flight, as he was forced to do. After a few daies he arriued in Portugale in a towne called *Nou fen de mille fuentes*, neare vnto *S. Vincents Cape*, where he refreshed himselfe, and sent for a Chirurgian from Faro: his name I haue forgotten (but well I remember he was reckened excellent in his Art.) There the king sojourned, accompanied with the Duke of Aneiro, and *Christopher Tauora*, and diuerse other Lords, vntill he was perfectly healed. The tidings of his being at the Cape were sodainly spread at Lisbon, and was soon published generally throughout all Portugal. And it was affirmed, that he was seene at the Couent of Capuchins (built vpon the point of *S. Vincent*) amongst his companions. This rumor was soone quailed by the policie and authoritie of *Petro de Alcaçona*, great Secretarie of Portugal, in the behalfe of *Dom Philip* king of Spaine, with whom he had before-hand concluded, when *Dom Sebastian* the king employed him in Embassage into Spaine, before his departure into Africke. And for that cause this *Petro Alcaçona* (a damnable Politician and a monstrous traitour) as soone as the first newes came, that the Christians had lost the day, and his King and Maister slaine, this Iew gaue secret intelligence to the king of Castill of all that happened: signifying vnto him, that nowe

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were a fit time to surprise the kingdome of Portugall, and bid him make readie for the purpose. I respected the handling of the second establishment of vniõ betweene the king my maister before his departure, and the king of Castile, which is expressed by one *Connestay* at large; who being a man of good respect in Portugal, came post to seeke me from Rome to Venice, and amongst many other newes, he reported vnto me, that as soone as euer it was bruted abroad in Portugall, that *Dom Sebastian* the king was liuing, and prisoner in Venice, there were many deuises reuiued concerning this brute, that long time before lay buried. And withall you must note, that *Dom Diego de Sosa* the Admirall, which conducted the king into Africke, re-embarked him from thence into Portugall againe, and gaue continual intelligence vnto his kindred and assured friends, that their king was liuing, and that he had secretly receiued him aboard, among the scattered troupes, and gaue them an especial charge, that they should conceale it. And further, that he gaue him a secret signe, whereby he might know him hereafter, if need required: which priuitie, *Dom Diego* discovered vna-wares, when a counterfeit (suborned for the purpose) came to that *Diegoes* house, sending for him into the field to come home to speake with *Dom Sebastian* the king: to whom he said abruptly: Hath he deliuered any secret token betwixt him and me, whereby I might credite thee? By which question he published that, which he secretly had bewrayed before to his allies. Whereupon the Cardinall *Dom Henry*, great Vncle to the king, tooke occasion to send a trustie seruant of his, called *Emanuel Antunes*, to *S. Vincents Cape*, charging him to vse all the industrie he might, in finding out what certaintie he could learn of the king his Nephew. All which, this *Emanuel* performed, with as much indeuour as he might possibly vse: and by his diligent inquisition about the said Cape, found that the king had bene in the Monasterie: and was there certified, that he was both hurt in the head and arme, and in a manner franticke, not onely for the exceeding anguish and vexation of mind which he suffered for the losse of victorie, but withall the shame did euer perplex him, when he considered the ouerthrow came by

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indiscretion and rashnesse, and that by his default the flower and prime of all Portugal, was defeated and cut off. *Antunes* brought a very large testimoniall hereof to the Cardinall vnder the seale of the father Gardian, and all the rest of his brethren of the said Monasterie: which the Cardinal receiued with his owne hands, commaunding his seruant to impart this secret to none, which he for his owne part buried in his own bosome. And not being able to find out what course his Nephew and his companie tooke for their escape out of the countrie, gaue ouer the expectation of his recovery either of his crown and scepter while he liued, though it were his due. But when it was knowne in Portugal that the K. liued, *Antunes* begā to acknowledge the paines he had vndergone in these affaires, by his masters appointment: which was no sooner conueyed to the king of Castiles eare, but he sent for this *Antunes*, of whom he had a liberall relation of all that he knew concerning that businesse: and soone after *Antunes* his returne into Portugall, he died. Whereby it appeareth vnto me, that God lengthened his life some space, to reueale a truth, that seemed before to be very intricate and doubtfull. Shortly after the Portugals began to murmure among themselves, boldly saying, that *D. Philip* the king had made away *Dom Sebastian* their king (his Nephew) going to him to craue his aide before his departure into Africke, because he had a meaning to gaine the kingdome of Portugall to him and his successours, and hold it by vsurpation. And this scandall was neuer extinguished, because fame diuulged his arriuing at the Cape called *S. Vincent*, and no certainty appeared to the world, what way he passed from thence. But since it is proued, that frō Spaine he got shipping and trauelled into Alexandria, and there liued in *Prester Iohns* Court with his followers, some twentie moneths, vnkowne of what qualitie he was, professing that he had a desire to see the world, and trauelled onely to that end and purpose: for of want he made no shew, he and his company being well furnished with gold and iewels of great price. From Aethiopia they passed ouer the red sea, and so directly to the mount Sinay; from thence to the great *Sophi* called *Xatama* king of Persia, whom he serued as a Commaunder fīue or sixe
yeares

yeares against the Turkes, where he atchieued many victories, and diuerse wounds in his bodie, with much honour and reputation. In requitall whereof, the king of Persia did him many honorable offices, and gaue him rich presents of inestimable price, with the which he and his companie departed. I heard at Venice of his conference with Colonel *Cigogna*, a man of great experience in the warres, which assured the Lords of the Senat, that he neuer talked with any man more wise, learned, or better experienced in Militarie discipline, then this noble person: and he protested he could be no other, then the same he professed to be. The excellent and most reuerend Lord the Archbishop said, he heard the discourse between the King and the Colonel, which delighted him exceedingly. This Archbishop I could not speake withall at my being in Venice, for that he was employed in Dalmatia in the affaires of the State.

The King leauing Persia, went towards Ierusalē, frō whence he trauelled by firme land to Constantinople: which after certaine dayes he left, and came into Italie, from thence to Hungarie, and from thence fetched a compasse by Muscouie, Poland, Swedland, and Denmarke, where he tooke shipping for England: and in London it is reported he saw *D. Antonio* the supposed king of Portugal. From England he passed into Holland; from Holland by Almaine backe to Antwerpe: thence to Paris, anno 1586. It comes to my memorie, that in the latter end of the same yeare, one *Antonio Fernandes Pignero*, a Priest, which had sometime bene Amner to the said *Dom Sebastian*, &c. and was with me in seruice from the said Lord *D. Antonio*, told me that the same *Dom Antonio*, had heard it credibly reported, that *Dom Sebastian* the King was liuing, &c. whereat *D. Antonio* seemed to be sore amazed and perplexed. About which time I craued licence of *D. Antonio* to go out of England into this countrie, which he gaue with some shew of discontentment therewith. By reason whereof, and to auoid all suspicion, I moued no question to him concerning the particularitie of this matter; and I must tell you by the way, that *Pignero* had all this discourse in writing *sub sigillo confessionis*, which although (said he) I make the same knowne vnto you, yet I

pray you conceale it from *D. Antonio*, because it may be very preiudiciall to him of whom I heard it. In the yeare following after Easter, in the time of Ember, when I was come to that towne, whither I made the scope of my iourney, I heard the like concerning the same businesse which I before had heard in England, whereof I seemed to make no great care: and coming to Paris, after his Christian Maiestie had entred the town, *D. Nonnelet* assured me in the presence of diuers Portugals and French men, not once nor twice, but many times, that it was as certaine and assured that *D. Sebastian* (King of Portugale) had bene lately in Paris, as he spake to me: describing him to me by many circumstances: to all which I gaue no credite, esteeming all he said to be meere fables. Not that I held any opinion or conceit that he was slaine at the battell in Africke, but my imagination could not receiue any impression that he could be guiltie of any such rare dissimulation to passe so many cities and regions without discouerie.

The last yeare writing to the said Doctore to *Annessi* where he dwelt, of these newes which I heard, that my Lord and maister should be set a libertie by the consent of the Siegniorie of Venice: I intreated him to write vnto me at large, that which he had oft recited to me in this town, concerning the estate of that King. And because his answer was, that he could not agree to the satisfaction of my demaunds, I ceased to importune him any further in that behalfe. But forasmuch as at my being at Venice, some of the chiefe of the Siegniorie of that State, asking me if I were able to say any thing concerning that the King had answered vpon his examination: saying, that he had bene in Paris, and there conferred with a Portugale fled out of his countrey for *D. Antonioes* cause, being his cosin. And further, that he met with a gentlemā of Swisser-land at Soleurre, departing from thence towards *Annessi*, by whom I sent a letter to *D. Nonnelet*: in the which I most instantly desired him to set downe in writing all that he had declared to me at Paris, concerning my maister *D. Sebastian*, &c. At my great importunity it pleased him to grant me my desire, and here I haue annexed the same, copied out verbatim, as it was written, in maner and forme, with the recommendations

mendations he assigned me to do to his friends, (named in the same originall) men of good esteeme for birth, office, and popular affectation. So that to his truth and sinceritie no man can take exception, being a professor in his art, both very learned and excellently experienced, in his life and manners neuer detected. Therefore all suspicion either of the matter or the man is preuented.

*The copie of a Letter sent from D. Nouuelet
to Fr. Ioseph Texere.*

SIR, I receiued your last Letter dated the eighteenth of the Smoneth past: whereby you make me recal to mind the grieffe I conceiued by your letters preceding, concerning the troubles of *Emanuel Godigno*, a Gentleman, borne in Portugale. I had long since expresse in writing, and sent it you, if I had coincidered your disposition had bene apt to entertaine newes. So ready and willing I am to applie my endeouours to do you seruice, in any thing you shall please to commaund me: but the consideration of your rare perfection of memorie, made me decline from doubt of any defect therein, and so much the slower in committing that to writing, which I had before so obseruantly vttered in your hearing, and in the presence of many persons of good respect, as well of your countrey, as of other nations: imputing this imposition rather to your desire to be better assured, *Ob signatis tabulis*, then to any want of cariage in your vnderstanding parts, I thus addresse my pen to confirme my tongues discourse. In the yeare of our Lord 1588. being at Nance, in employment and seruice of my Lord the Cardinall of Gondie, about the affaires of my Lord the Bishop of Paris, his nephew, that was called Abbot of Buzai; I tooke vp my lodging in the couent of the Iacobins, where I found good oportunitie to ingraft my selfe in the fauour and friendship of the reuerend father *D. Sampayo*, a man much commended for his liberall erudition in letters, but recommended for his integritie and zeale, one of your owne order, and of your ancient and approued acquaintance, and being

both godly and learned, vnited in more assured bonds of loue and amitie, then are exercised among the vulgar. Meane while that league of friendship then planted betweene that good Dr. *Sampayo* and me, tooke so good roote in vs both, as it continueth without perill of supplanting til this day: and is like for your sake to fructifie abundantly, as well by increase of loue, as of acquaintance with many other noble gentlemen of good sort and condition. Among the rest of the ordinary frequenters, came Sr. *Emmanuel Godigno*, to visite Doctor *Sampayo* at my lodging, and taking some acquaintance of me, continued the same as long as I lay in Nance: till I retired towards Paris, leauing to my great sorrow the sweete conuersation betwixt Doctor *Sampayo* and my selfe, louing each other dearly. This *Godigno* loth to let slip out of vse, the complements that had past betweene him and me at Nance, at his comming to Paris frequented my lodging daily, to vnderstand of Doctor *Sampayo*'s health and welfare: whereof I not being able to giue him any certaine intelligencè, he began to mourne and looke heauily, whom I could not chuse but in that passion to accompanie, enuying any mans affection should exceed mine in zeale to my friend. It followed that, vpon a Sunday (in what moneth I remember not) this Sr. *Godigno* receiued the Communion very deuoutly, ministred by the chiefe of the *Iacobins*, which made me refraine for that time to salute him, or he me: for intruth I thinke he saw me not, and I not willing to interrupt his deuotion, let him passe without any ceremonie on my part performed. Notwithstanding, the same afternoone he repaired to my lodging, and as his custome was, demaunded what tidings I heard of his friend and mine Doctor *Sampayo*: and I hauing no better means to informe him then before, desired him to excuse my ignorance being vnable to giue him any contentment by intelligence of him, or from him. At which answer, the kind gentleman seemed very pensue and appaled, sitting still a long while mute and silent: whereby I imagined he had somewhat that inwardly distempered him, for I might perceiue the teares trickle downe his cheekes. Which perturbation breaking out at his eyes, afforded him some libertie to vtter these words following: *Sir, I consider*
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the great loue that was betwixt Doctor *Sampayo* and you, that manifestly appeared to me at Nance: & withal, the confidence he reposed in your fidelitie towards him, which perswades me, that I cannot commit a secret matter of great consequence to a man that can more assuredly conceale it then your selfe. And I doubt not but the same shall be as safely guarded in the treasure of your constancie, as in his, if you will vouchsafe to giue me your vnsained promise so to do. Whereunto I answered: *Sir, if it be a secret neuer as yet by you reuealed to any man but vnto me, you may boldly speake it: but if you haue already trusted any man, or shall hereafter declare the same to any other, it may so fall out, that you may lay some other mans deserved blame to my charge. Therefore in this doubtfull case I beseech you trust your selfe, and tell me nothing: for I will not haue you ransacke your inclosure vpon my protestation, although I presume so much vpon your honest sinceritie, being a Gentleman both honest and religious, you wil vtter nothing vnto me, that shall not be like your selfe: considering beside, I haue seene you this day participate a sound mystery, most reuerently and deuoutly among the Iacobins, which assures me, that you cannot produce any thing out of your mouth either prophane or wicked.* Whereunto he replied, that he was expressly prepared to receiue the holy Communion vpon this day, to the end God might inspire him with the vnderstanding, what was fittest for him to do in this case, and resolved absolutely to tell it me, that I might disclose it to Doctor *Sampayo*, fearing least he might die, burdened with so great a secret, as concerned the good of all Christendome, holding his conscience greatly charged with the weight thereof, coniuring me seriously to deliuer it safe to Doctor *Sampayo*: meane while if it please God to take him out of this transitorie world, it might be lawfull for me to publish it openly before my death. This and such other like speeches being ended, he began to vnbose his conceit, in this manner: It was my chaunce to meete with a Gentleman in this towne, my cuntryman, betweene the which and me there had bene auncient amitie: after many dayes conference at secret meetings, he told me that *Dom Sebastian* the King of Portugale was not dead: wherat the said *Godigno* seemed to be astonished, and said, he did not belecue it, vntil he had seene him aliue with

his owne eyes, and then (said he) I may haue reason to be of your mind. Which the other promised should be effected, and to that purpose caried him to dinner to the house where *Dom Sebastian* was lodged, which was as I remember in *S. Iames* his streete, or in harpe streete; whether the first or second day, or shortly after he had vsed to that place, he could not certainly name the time, but a friend of his a Portugal came and inquired at the house for *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugal: and as he was comming vp the stayers, *Godigno* halted downe the stayers to stop his passage, and tooke occasion to carie away his friend, faining some other affaires with him because he would preuent the King from discouery, who was very ieaious of publicke notice. But the morrow after, the same gentleman came againe about his former businesse, and inquired earnestly for the King, and being there denied him, ceased not to aske of euery one he met throughout all the citie for *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugal, but not preuailing at all, he fell into an extreme agonie, and desisted not from inquisition, to litle purpose: and surprised with great care what to do, was at length inspired with a motion fro God to professe a solitarie life, and take vpon him the habit of an hermit: so, being disguised trauelled towards Spaine, and arriuing at the Court, made meanes to speake with the Catholicke King, saying, that he had matters of great importance to reueale vnto him, and to none but the King. And after long attendance, he was admitted to the Kings presence to haue audience, to whom he protested he had lately seene *Dom Sebastian* in Paris, and confirmed it by many signes and tokens of veritie. The King presently forbad him by any meanes to vtter it to any man liuing, and willed him to go abroade euery where to search out and discouer what he might possibly, allowing him present money to beare his charges, deliuering him a letter to *D. Bernardino Mendosa*, then his ledger Ambassador in France, to giue him any money he should haue cause to vse, not signifying vnto him for what cause or intent: and thereupon he shewed me letters, which made the matter euident that he had bene in Spaine, as is aforesaid; but for the particularities of the said letters I do not well remember, but that I hold my selfe satisfied thereby that

that he had bene in Spaine, &c. but to continue his tale, he told he had trauelled so long that his money being well wasted he was forced to go to *Mendosa*, to be supplied in his necessitie, to whom when he would not reueale the cause of his comming into those parts, and hauing letters of intelligence out of Spaine from some great man that he should deliuer that *Godigno* no more money, being but an impostor and a deluder, as they termed him, *Mendosa* was soone confirmed in that parsimonie, intending before to shut vp his liberalitie and to giue him neuer a denecere: at which deniall this *Godigno* began to lament and burst forth into bitter teares: as I iudge his lamentation was because he was crost and preuented for comming to the type of his enterprife.

In the end, protesting before God and his Angels, and by vertue of that holy Sacrament he had that day receiued, that all that he had vttered to me was true: in the end without protestation of beleeuing, or shew of incredulitie, I promised him my secrecie, as he desired: some few daies after this conference, he returned vnto me as he vsed to do, inquiring what news I heard offather *Sampayo*: to whom I answered, I vnderstood of him no more then before. Meane while, I was (as it were) distracted in conceit, seeing this Gentlemans relation a paradoxe aduerse to the same and vulgar opinion of *Dom Sebastians* death: and weighing this Gentlemans integritie, zeale, and communication with the Iacobins, could not in my conscience condene him for a lier. But whether it were true or false, according to my promise I concealed it (though it were in some sort an offence so to do). It came to passe in some litle space after, in the house of an Apothecarie, dwelling in the suburbs called *S. Germaine*, neare the gate (whose house was razed at the siege of Paris) that this man died. Here is all that I can say concerning this subiect, which I neuer opened to any man sauing to Doctor *Sampayo*, which was a good while after, but the time I do not iustly remember: and one cause why I was loth to speak of it, was, for that I was afraid to be thought deluded. And me thinks this I haue written vnto you may seeme very strange, notwithstanding the cōmon report at this houre is, that *Dom Sebastian* was seene aliue two yeares

after he was detained in Venice: but I tell ye, the greater part of the world suppose, that he is a counterfeit, suborned, &c. God knowes what he is, who euer send you happie and long life: so with my humble recommendations to your reuerend self, I leaue you. From Annisi the last of September, anno 1601.

I forgot to tell you, that *Emmanuel Godigno* added to that before mentioned; that the Catholicke King gaue him in especiall charge to tell *Dom Sebastian*, that the Catholike King requested him by any meanes to hasten his returne without delay to him, desiring nothing so much as to render him the possession of his Realme and kingdome, and to bestow his eldest daughter vpon him in marriage.

I am farther to desire you of so much fauour, as to send me these bookes from Lions here mentioned in a catalogue, inclosed in this letter, and I will faithfully repay whatsoeuer you shall lay out to that purpose. Here follow the titles: All the workes you can find, *De regno Christi temporali*. I beseech you salute for me *Monsieur le Feure*, recommending my faithfull seruice vnto him: of whom if it please you, you may craue assistance in my businesse, for he is a man, *multa lectionis*.

Good Lord! I had forgotten my dutie to *Monsieur de Tyron*, to *Monsieur Pellejay*, to *Monsieur de Marnay*, and to my louing friēds of Amboise, three brethrē, reckning my self much bound to them all: notwithstanding, I feare they little trouble themselves with the thinking vpon so meane a man as my selfe, and this conceit halfe dismaies me to trouble you so far as to recommend me in all humilitie to my Lord Bishop of Eueux. Whatsoeuer you shall thinke conuenient to performe in my behalfe, either to adde or diminish, I referre to your discretion.

Your most humble seruant,
C. L. D. Nouueler.

The superscription.

To M. Texere Portuguezze, Counsellor and Amner
to the King, &c.

A

A Declaration.

THE King *D. Sebastian* departing from Paris trauelled thorough Fraunce directly into Italy: and I know not who followed him, or where he forsooke his companie, but most assured I am, he resolved to giue ouer the pompe and glorie of the world, and to retire himselfe to liue priuatly; and being in Dalmatia, he made choise of an hermitage for his habitation, contenting him therewith in lieu of his former princely palace. This poore hermitage was situated on the top of a mountaine, neare the citie of Lesine, where he abode for the space of three yeares: in the issue of which time there arriued a ship of Portugale, from whence some passengers going a pilgrimage to that hermitage, seeing the King, knew him incontinently, and said aloud: *Behold, yonder is our King Dom Sebastian*; and spread this rumour presently about the citie. The King perceiuing that he was discovered, grew much displeased therewith, and vpon that discontentment, determined with himselfe to forsake the place, (to the great crucifying of my soule, for there he liued in great tranquillitie of mind with no lesse consolation) being in a bodily feare least the Portugals should come thither and search for him, he thought good to go: and before he went from Lesine, he distributed all his moueables and household-stuffe amongst his friends: three of the which comming to Venice were called before the Senate, before whom they confirmed al which the said King confessed vpon his first examination touching his estate and accidents in those quarters. The Senators called them to come before the King face to face in open view of the whole Senate and assistants, and they knew one another very well; and one of them brought a picture with him, which the King had left behind him, vpon the which was painted, Iesus Christ crucified, with *S. Sebastian* and *S. Anthony* of Padua. And this act is so common in Venice, that they talke thereof without controlement.

The King departed from Lesine wandring here and there, seeking some conuenient place to retire himselfe into, fit for his

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designe, lodged himselfe in a mountaine neare Pisa, where he spent his time as you shall heare. He had hose, and what else I know not, but no hat, nor other necessary thing that might serue instead thereof: by reason whereof you must needs imagine his complexion of force must alter, which from swart became black, his haire grew long, but not vnseemely, for he vsed to cut it: his garments were of course cloth, and his food herbes, rootes, and fishes, which were giuen him for Gods sake: he frequented the citie, where, the first moneths of his arriual, he gaue monie towards the dowries and marriages of poore maidens, and at his owne charge deliuered many out of prison, discharging their debts. And hauing distributed all he had for God sake, he was faine to receiue again for God sake, and took that in good part which was giuen him in the towne, onely to serue the necessities of his person, which were few, considering the austeritie of his diet and hard penance which he willingly indured, relecuing prisoners with the surpluse of his poore fortunes, if he had any, to whom he did many seruices by his trauell & labor, to dispatch their busines whensoever they requested him. One reported vnto me, that he had many charitable almes at a Portugales house in the towne, who ministred vnto him clothes and other necessities, without knowledge what he was, or where he was borne: which he by his owne confession tooke very thankfully. The like befell him in *S. Alexis*, where he afterward arriued: and after in Edisse a citie in Syria, he receiued bencuolence of his owne seruants, that wandred almost through the habitable parts of the world to seeke him.

After he had remained certaine yeares in these mountaines, there appeared a vision vnto him by night, wherein he thought God commaunded him to repaire home into his owne kingdom, and leaue this desolate and solitarie life, and abandon both hermitage and mountaines: but afterward misliking his former opinion, he begā to suspect the same apparitiō to be diabolicall, or meere fantastickall, and reuoked that purpose for to proceed in his journey homeward: but a very old man dwelling neare vnto him in the foresaid desolate place, with whom he liued in a great league of amitie, because he was a vertuous man,

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exercising himself wholly in deuotion and prayer, made him reuoke that vnreuerent conceipt of his vision, saying that it was a good and a godly motion, and therefore could not proceed from an ill spirit: and therefore a godly and a diuine vision, and perswaded him to do his indeuour, to execute that, which therein was giuen him in charge.

The King listened vnto this old mans aduice, and so much the rather, for that he discouered vnto him before many strange things, and foretold many matters that he had scene take euent according to his prediuation. Whereupon the King wiping away the teares from his cheekes, which his wofull heart had sent outward as messengers of secret sorow, tooke his leaue of his fellow in affliction, like one deprived (by griefe) of ready vse both of reason and iudgement. So, abruptly leauing his louing friend and religious companion, trotted onwards of his iourney from one place to another, vntill he came to Messine a citie in Cicile. In which place it is supposed he had left (passing that way before) some peeces of gold and iewels of value, which to recouer, to serue his present turne, and to furnish him in good sort, he was forced to discouer himself to his companions, from whom he had stolne long before.

In this voyage he sent *Marco Tullio Catizzone* into Portugale, with diuerse letters, to many persons of qualitie (as is said before in my Treatise called *Admirable aduentures*.) And at Messine he shipt himselfe in a Gally belonging to his Holines, bound for Genua, being fraught with filkes, & afterward came to Ciuita Vecchia. From whence without any delay he posted to Rome, and was lodged neare vnto *S. Peters Church*, where as he was sleeping in his chamber, he was robbed by certaine of his seruants, whom he had newly entertained into his seruice, not long after his comming to Rome. And very neare as shortly after my departure therehence, hearing of the rumour, I sent to a friend of mine there, to giue me intelligence of the certainty of these tydings. Who sent me word that he had bene at his lodging, and spake with his hostesse, being a widow, and with her children and seruants, which reported all that had past in that businesse, saying they well discerned by his

behaviour, that he was some honourable personage, or some very great Lord; and said they were very much grieved with the infortunate rumour that was spread there, that he was declared to be *Dom Sebastian* the true King of Portugale; which by his grauitie and maiesticall behavior assured them no lesse, then that he was some great Prince.

Conferring this I now learned, with these circumstances collected before in this countrie, and afterward confirmed at Venice, any man may be well assured that this report was true. At Venice one shewed me an inuentorie, written with his owne hand, of those parcels of treasure that had bene stolne from him: amongst the rest there was a chaine of gold garnished with precious stones; which the great Sophi presented him, with a diamond of great value, and rings with precious stones most exquisitely set, with many other peeces of good estimation and value. And while he was distempered for the losse of these iewels, he mist certaine papers, the purports whereof were of great importance: all which were slipperily conueyed away; which being kept had bene direct testimonies to serue his turne, in the doubtfull opinions of them that were to trie and sift him, whether he were the same *Dom Sebastian* he pretended to be. And hauing vnderstanding of some ambushment laid to intrap him by the passage of Vmbrie, he altered his course and went by Narne; and when he came thither, and heard no newes of his enemies in his way, he went forward by Tarne: where he had intelligence that his Holinesse would go to our Ladies of Laret. Then he addressed his iourney to that place directly; and when he came to Neuuaine, he vnderstood his Holines had changed his purpose, and was resolved to go by Bologne, and so to Ferrara: the King after his deuotion ended, bent his trauel towards Bologne. Whither when he came sore wearied and tired miserably, he heard of another alteration, that his Holinesse by meanes of some sickness that came vpon him sodainly, had no intent once to budge from Rome, being forced to keep his chamber. This tossing and reeling to no purpose, troubled the poore King exceedingly, hauing broken the necke of his designs: not knowing then what way to take, thought with himself to go some way at a venture,

ture, not resolving vpon any one, his fortunes grew so variable: at the last he directly past to a village, which belongs to the Count of Verone, in the mid-way to Mantoue, which some call Nogara. And when he came to that borough, a strange imagination possessed him, that one violently withstood him, for going any further that way. Then, he supposing himselfe to haue day-light inough to guide him to Mantoue, was contented to be checked in the other passage; finding his mind assailed with a thousand variable cogitations, which so afflicted him, that he could not vtter any one period of his vexations, to him that accompanied him. At this time I had no certain report of the kings being in that place: which is the cause I made no mention of the day, as I vsed to do of his other passages.

The king being at Mantoue told a Gentleman of Lorete, that when he was at our Ladies there, he named himselfe, *Iuan Poeta*. This Gentleman being entred into very good termes of amitie with the King, did him many kind fauours and courtesies, entertaining him at his lodging in the best sort he could deuise: and shortly after accompanied him to Ferrara, where he apparelled the King in silkes and veluet. Shortly after this Gentleman had performed these offices to the King, his vrgent businesse called him from that place: but before he went, he conducted the King to his tailers house, and there tooke order for the supplying of his wants, and gaue great charge for his speciall entertainment, willing his host to call him *Ioanne Baptista Sartori della contrada de Santa Maria la Fratra*. This man was of good yeares, very vertuous and rich, into whose house the King entred the fourth of October, anno 1597. In which yeare, the King vnderstanding the Pope was to make his entrie into Ferrara; accompanied with this tayler, about the first of May set forward towards the same citie: whither when the King came and found not his Holines there, he determined then to attend his comming. In which space the King confessed himselfe to Frier *Alonso*, a religious professor of my order, a man of great vertue and sinceritie (but very simple) who thinking to do well, did that which fell out to be very ill, in reporting to diuers Nobles and Gentlemen, that *Dom Sebastian* the King of Portugale was in the citie, attending the

presence of his Holinesse: and as it hapneth, that one euil seldom comes alone, the taylor being acquainted with a gentleman of Portugale (whose name I know not, some called him *Baron*) this Gentleman the taylor conducted home to the Kings lodging to diner. This Portugale sitting at the table, often beheld the King aduisedly as he sate at meate, and obserued him in euery respect. Soone after dinner was done, the King rose and departed to his chamber. After his retire the Gentleman said to his hostesse, and the rest of the company that dined with them, the tailor also being present: *Gentlemen (said he) this Gentleman that sate here at diner amongst vs, is surely D. Sebastian the King of Portugal. I am that countriman and know him well, for I haue seene him many times before his departure into Africke to warre against the Infidels. All we Portugals hold it for an assured veritie, that he escaped at that time very sore hurt, and that he was seene afterward in Portugale, from whence he fled, but how or what way we could neuer yet learne.* The tailor no sooner heard these words, but he went presently and told them to the king. This speech much offended the king, and grieued him not a litle; and withall, remembring that Frier *Alonso* had in his meere simplicitie betrayed him: and moreouer, considering that the King of Castiles Agent was aduertised that he was in that citie, and plotted against him, being in great feare what euill might happen vnto him, resolved presently to steale away secretly, without taking leaue either of host, confessor, or taylor.

This discourse the tailor himselfe vttered vnto me, with many other particularities, in the temple of *S. Siluester* in Verona, confirming the same in his owne house afterward, with the effusion of abundant teares running downe his cheekes and beard, with such zealous lamentation, as he inforced me to accompanie him in the selfesame manner of grieuing. He told me also that he remained in his house with him seuen moneths at the least, and was attēded on by his daughter, being a faire yong maiden: and in all that while he protested the King did not once looke directly in her face, commending him for his temperate, affable, and exceeding vertuous behauiour, and that he obserued his faults very seuerely, praying almost continually: and said farther

ther vnto me weeping: *Father, I feare that Prince is much iniured: I beseech the Almighty God to preserue him: O that it were lawfull for me, and for his safetie, that I might keepe him within my simple habitation, not as he is a Prince, but in respect of his bountie and honour: and if I should happen to die before him, I could leaue him sufficient to liue on all the dayes of his life.* Trust me the simplicitie of this poore old man, pleased me exceedingly, and induced me the rather to beleue him. He also informed me by what title the Senate of Venice called him, and inquired of him if euer he entertained him in his house, and whether his answers to diuers interrogatories were true or not, and whether all that he told the Lords were true or false? To which he answered iustly and failed not a iot; and he maintained him to be the true King of Portugale, hauing many reasons so to perswade him: the one was the confident assertion of the Portugal gentleman that dined in his company at Ferrara, saying he departed out of Portugal secretly, yet proued by many circumstances: and this old man assisted me much when the Senate conuented him before them, asking him how long he kept companie with him before he came to Ferrara, and whether he were the same man that lodged in his house. Then he kneeled downe before his feete, embracing them, and looking towards the Senate, said: *This is Dom Sebastian King of Portugale, which lodged in my house: whom afterward I accompanied to Ferrara.* And when the king was asked of the Iudges, whether he knew that old man or no: he answered, that he had neuer seen him before this day. At which answer, the old man told me he was more perplexed, then he was with his sudden departure from him at Ferrara, and wept most bitterly. I must excuse the king for thus confuting the old man before the Senate, for that he vnderstood at Venice and Padua, a litle after he departed from the presence of the Senate, that they had straightly imprisoned and punished one *Monsieur Ieronimo* at Venice, for entertaining him into his house, and had punished diuers other for doing him the like fauour. And the King fearing that the like rigour might be offered this silly old man, made him to disclaime his acquaintance: which the King vpon his returne to prison, reuealed incōtinently to Count *Cesar Martinengo*, to Count *Charles* his bro-

ther, and diuers other his fellow prisoners. And the Lords said vnto me, they called me to see one Iohn Baptista Sartori de Verona, and asked me if I knew him; and for that I was much bound to this good old man, for many good offices done vnto me, and for that I saw it turned them al to displeasure, that did me any good, I answered for his safetie, that I knew him not, nor had euer seene him: which the poore old man digests very heavily: and if any good friend would but deliuer this my excuse vnto him, I wil acknowledge my self much bound to him for that friendly courtesie. The selfe same act in the like words, a Cannon of Bresse reported vnto me, meeting me in that city, accompanying me as far as Lac, hapning to speake of the king, and of the opinion that was deliuered of them generally that had seene him: that it was thought verily he was *D. Sebastian* the king most assuredly, not knowing me to be any fauorer of his proceedings: telling me that al he knew of the matter, he heard of these Counts and gentlemen that were in prison with him, for the space of fife moneths: whereof he recited vnto me many particulars: and this Cannon (as I take it) was called *De Lone*: so after long conference the night approching, I tooke my leaue of him, &c.

The King departing from Ferrara, held on his way to Padua, and being there, he thought it fit he should attend the answer of his letters he sent into Portugale by *Marco Tullio Catizzone*: his deuotion performed to *S. Anthony*, he determined to go to Venice, where all these things happened vnto him, which we haue already reported in the former treatise, intituled, *Admirable Aduentures, &c.* as you may reade in a letter sent to me from *Iohn de Castro*; & in that, which the king wrote to his Holinesse: where it is at large specified, how he was betraied into the hands of the Castilians, by one of his owne seruants for reward, and so committed to prison. This trecherous varlet being conuincd and reproued by some of the Kings friends, that had vnderstanding of his perfidious seruice, being already bought and corrupted with a few pence, following the periured faction like a maisterlesse cur, fell into the art of slander, and banding against his loyal maister with hote pursute, and vehement accusations, as sodomie, cofinage, in prison and abroad. Notwithstanding all this villanie, God that weyes all mens causes in equall ballance, will not

not suffer his seruants euert to quaille vnder the burden of iniquitie: the hearing of his cause was committed to *S. Marco Quirini*, which was at that time *Sabio de la terre firme*, and at this day is, *Sabio Grande*, one of the foure Iudges, commissioners allotted for this circuite. The said *Quirini* reporting to the Senate what he had heard concerning his accusations, and what also was testified in his defence, said, That he not only found this man innocent and guiltlesse of the crimes laid to his charge, but thought him generally to haue liued a harmelesse life. This sentence was well approved and allowed by the Senators: & as soone as it was published, which was in the beginning of the yere 1599. they freed the king from the dungion where he lay before, and placed him in a more fauourable prison, a place of some libertie. You shall reade hereafter the paines and punishment *Dom Sebastian* the King my maister indured sithence his misadventure in Africke, vntill the day of his manifestation to the world. I beseech you hold me excused, though I satisfie you not so plentifully and so orderly as you expect or desire: it is all I could learne, and it is hard to gather so much in these parts, where the truth hath bene so ingeniously laboured to be suppressed and smothered: beside, the great hazard of my person in traouelling to obtaine this litle, assuring you that our hope withers not, but springs dayly, to see my Lord *Dom Sebastian* to be as absolute King of Portugale, as it is iustly due vnto him by the law of God and nations: then shall my pen trample vpon the vale of tyrannie and oppression, that now so imperiously curbes poore patience and equitie.

Seeing God hath hitherto bene both his lampe and shield, to lighten and guard him, through so many darke and dangerous ambushments: why should we not be assured that he that can hath a purpose to make vs reioyce and wonder as much at his aduancement and dignitie, as his poore friends and seruants are grieued and dismayed with his fall and miserie: hoping all Christian, magnificent, and maiestical Princes will ioine in intercession to the Almighty, to restore my poore (yet princely

Maister) from his wofull imprisonment,
to his Crowne and
libertie.

A Declaration.

NOW it is requisite, that I report vnto you somewhat concerning the ring, that hath bene so famous throughout the world, and of the rare vertues it was esteemed for: and so forward to handle other matters, whereof some make for his purpose, and other some as much for his hinderance.

You haue heard (gentle Reader) of one that shewed this King a ring, &c. thus it happened. As soone as he was come to Venice, there was warning giue to the goldsmiths, both by himselfe and some other of his friends, that he was robbed of certaine peeces of gold and iewels at Rome: then he gaue them the markes and tokens; desiring them, that if any such came into their hands by chaunce, they would make stay of them, vntill he, or some for him, came to challenge them. Not long after, a goldsmith lighted vpon a ring of gold, wherein was grauen the Armes of Portugale: which ring he presently brought to *Monsieur Ieronimo*, of whom you haue read before, an inhabitant of the same towne, who was ioynly apprehended with the King for lodging in his house, and was not deliuered vntill siue houres after the King was set at libertie. *Ieronimo* tooke the ring and brought it secretly to the King, lodging priuily in his house. As soone as the King beheld the ring, he said; This ring is none of mine, but it belongs to *D. Anthony* my cosin. This relation I had from *Ieronimo* himselfe at Venice, in the presence of many witnesses, and how the goldsmith happened to get this ring. In Moran an Iland some halfe league from Venice, there is an Abbot called *Capelo*, a gentleman of Venice, a graue personage, and of great authoritie, hearing that the King laid waite for certaine iewels that he had lost, hoping thereby to recouer some of them; hauing a diamond in his keeping, with the armes of Portugale, came to the towne to the conuenticles of *S. Francis*, called Frari, where the King lay concealed, for that he was pursued by some that meant him no good; who no sooner beheld the ring, but he said: Verily this is mine; and I either lost the same in Flanders, or else it was stolne from me. And when the

King

King had put it vpon his finger, it appeared otherwise ingrauen then before. The Abbot inquiring of him that brought him the ring, how he came by it: he answered, It is true that the King hath said. Therehence arose a strange rumour of a ring, that by turning the stone you might discern three great letters engrauen: *S. R. P.* that is as much to say: *Sebastianus Rex Portugallie*. Ignorant people not conceiuing aright of the thing, raised thereupon such rumours, as their owne imaginations could gather: and at all times, so often as the Abbot shewed the ring to the King, he had many witnesses to testifie the same. I sojourned three weekes in the same Ile, very neare the Abbots house, after this had past.

To the second point: although the King were leane and weake by reason of his trauell and troubles, as it is like he could not be so strong and puissant as he was when he reigned in Portugale, being there full fed and corpulent: yet in Padua in the house of *D. Prospero Baracco*, he was seene to lift vp two men at once with great facilitie, one of the which was called *Pasquino Morosini*, the other *Bernardino Santi*; both these together (putting his arme betweene their legs) he heaued from the ground, without straining or wrenching in the view of many. He did the like in the Ile of Moran to two other, the one called *Ieronimo Calegari*, the other *Pascalino Calegari*; and there was present the Archbishop of Spalato at the like performance of his puissance with other men of qualitie: and this *Pasquilino* was a man both tall and corpulent. A Venetian gentleman of the house wherein the King was prisoner, oftentimes took occasion to scoffe at the king, saying: It was impossible he should be the person he reported himself to be, with other geering frumpes: whereto the King said earnestly: Sir, I pray you tell me the reason of your incredulitie, and whereupon it is grounded: and *Molinar* answered: Because I haue heard it often reported, that the King *Dom Sebastian* was a lusty strong man, of power to pul a horse-shoe in sunder with his hands, and able to tire sixe horses in an houre; and you are but a spare poore megar shrimpe, and a gristle in respect of such a one, and scarcely able to teare foure cards asunder, if they be well ioyned together, nor like to tire one horse in

H 3

an houre. Well, said the King, if force will prooue me to be *Dom Sebastian*, &c. and the matter rest onely vpon that, it may be that one day I may satisfie you in that point. So long this gallāt continued in his former geering and railing, that one day about the rest, he moued the Kings patience, and made him angrie, and constrained him to shew him by the force of his hands, that he was *Dom Sebastian*, &c. and made him confesse the same: for being in a rage he came vpon him directly, and tooke him by the girdle with his right hand, and heauing him higher thē his head, caried him round about the prison in that manner, to the great admiration of all that beheld it: and this Gentleman neuer after durst abuse him any more, but vsed him with the honour and reuerence that was due vnto him. In like manner, he tooke vp in the same prison by the girdle one *Gasparo Turloni* (a Gentleman of Venice) with his right hand, and *Baptiste Marsoto* with his left hand, and lifted them both vp from the ground at one time. He also in the same prison tooke vp (putting his arme betweene their legges) two other Gentlemen, one very grosse and corpulent (namely *Messier Lucio de Messine*, and *Alexander de Alexandria*) and lifted them both of a good height: the oportunitie of this Gentleman made him do it in prison: and at Padua, and at Moran he was disposed to shew his force, to pleasure his friends thereby. That which before was spoken of the ring, and of his forces, were the two things I thought necessarie first to giue you notice of.

To ad to the two first two other. In Venice there is a rich and an honourable merchant, who hearing of this King, what marks and tokens he had on his bodie, and what he had said and done, tooke occasion to go to him, and made meanes to deserue his loue and amitie, by the performance of many kind offices towards him. This merchant was a Piemontoise by nation, by name called *Monsieur Iohn Bassanesse*, and his mother being a widow married after to one *Bartholomæo Verneti*, a Piemontoise borne also: who often vsed to checke and reprove his sonne in law for going so much to the King, saying, he was an impottor and a counterfeit: and his son in law boldly defended the King, by all the meanes and reasons he could deuise. During this con-

tention

tention betwixt the father and the son in law, the old man said; Come hither, heare me: *Emanuel Philibert* Duke of Sauoy, sent an Ambassador to *Dom Sebastian* king of Portugal his nephew, sonne to his cosin germaine, which Ambassador brought him a present; and returned backe againe from the said King with answer; and another present from the King to the Duke, the Ambassadors name was *Dominico Belli*, whose seruant I was at that very instant, by meanes whereof I saw and was priuie to all the parcels, and placed them my selfe in the casket, and likewise saw aduisedly what was returned from the King. Now sir, if you can perswade that man that says he is *D. Sebastian*, &c. to tel me what parcels those were (that were sent to and fro) directly, you shall bring me to be of your mind, and to confesse that he is the very same man he nominates himselfe to be. *Iohn Bassanesse* hearing these words, bethought himselfe which way he might come to haue conference with the King, to vnderstand the right of this matter, & as he was studying how to bring his purpose about, he dreamed of a stratageme which should effect his designe, which was, that he wold perpetrate some light crime, in hope therfore to be committed to the prison, where the king was: wherupō he resolved to take a cudgel vnder his cloake & go to the Realto, the chiefe place in Venice, and there quarrel with one or other, and bastinado him vntil he had drawn bloud of him, for which act he doubted not but to be committed: he proceeded according to his secret determination, and when he was come neare the Realto, he met with a friend of his, who perceiuing by his countenance, that he was troubled in mind, said vnto him: Sir, I see by you there is somewhat amisse. *Iohn Bassanesse* being wel assured, that he was a faithfull seruant to the King, laid open his intention vnto him, who found a meanes to get a note in writing vnder the kings hand of all the parcels, that passed from the one to the other. This memorandum was put into the hands of one *Leonardo Donato*, one of the *Sabio grande*, that first examined the King, and was thought to owe him litle good will, but after he surueyed his cause, and found it so iust & true, trauelled earnestly to the Senate, to pronounce him *Dom Sebastian* the true king of Portugal. All this I haue heard confirmed by many very wor-

thy persons : the originall I could not bring with me , for that *Donato* at my being there was employed as Generall of fūe and twentie thousand foote, and fūe thousand horse, in the countie of *Bresse*: which force the Siegniorie had leauied the yeare before, for their defence vpon some intelligence, &c. But as soone as *Iohn Bassanesse* had got the writing, he hyed him home to his father in law, and they agreed betweene them, that one should stand at one end of the table, and the other below; and the father wrote the peeces he knew , and the son by his note was able to informe the old man of diuers parcels that he had forgotten: and the old man said it was haft made him ouerslip somewhat; those foure white horses (said he) I did not well remember, but I thinke verily it was true: and the old man wondred not a little, how his sonne came by this intelligence, and said he had deuised it himselfe: but seeing himselfe vanquished, said to his sonne: Visit the King, my son, at your pleasure, and do him what good you may, and I beseech God to assist him.

Forasmuch as I know the curious sort of people, desire to view the particulars, and to make our prooffe the more autentical, I haue here set the down in order as they were inuentoried.

The parcels presented by the Duke to the King.

A case full of filkes, of diuers colours.

Another full of cloth of siluer, of diuers sorts and colours.

Another full of cloth of gold, of diuers colours.

A diamond set in a ring.

An auncient garment of very great value, being a trophe, taken from the French at *S. Quintaines*, embrodered & garnished about the necke with many iewels, foure white horses which the old man had forgotten, and diuers other peeces not named.

Those parcels that were sent from the King to the Duke.

A great chaine of gold of very good value: two peutrels, two bits, two paire of stirops, all garnished with diamonds, rubies, and other stones of great price.

One diamond set in gold, which *Bartholomeo Veneti* said was as big as the naile of his right thombe.

Many East-Indian dishes of sundrie colours, with other rich things of good esteeme.

For

For the second of the last proofes, being the fourth and last, you shall vnderstand that there be foure merchants at Venice, men indued with wealch, honour, estimation, and charitie, that in my hearing haue named these foure witnesses *Barnaba Rizzo*, *Iean Bassanesse*, *Constantin Nicoli*, who keeps in his hand the original letter of *D. Raimond Marqueti*, by which it is manifest that *D. Sebastian* is one man, and *Marco Tullio Catizzone* another: which letter he shewed publickely at *S. Markes*, to conuince the falshood of the Castilians, and their adherents: for the which and such other like seruices, the Spaniards could not be appeased without reuenge. The nineteenth of October, I had intelligence by letters, that one came into this honest mans shop, his seruants being sent all out of the way, and cut him on the head with a curtelaxe, and in diuers other places so dangerously, that he was in great perill of his life. The malefactor escaped vknowne. The fourth and last is called *Baptiste Dolphine*, and these foure haue bene euer good friends to the King, both by entertaining him and traouelling in his affaires, to the vttermost of their power, to set him at libertie, without intermission of any minute of oportunitie, that might be spent in his profitable seruice. But the Castilian Agents considering and knowing the zeale of these personages, and obseruing their constancie, that both with all their might and maine, defended the cause of the King my maister: seeing that neither faire promises, perswasions, nor threatnings, could make them desist from their vowed fidelitie and assistance, entred into this diuellish practise. First they beganne to publish these witnesses to be fooles, cosiners, and rogues, and perswaded certaine bankers and brokers to lay wagers with them, that the prisoner was not *Dom Sebastian* the King: assuring them that they might offer to giue a thousand for one, ifeuer it were prooued or published; for that they knew assuredly, that he was a Calabrian, a Sodomite, a theefe, a cosiner, and a counterfeit, and that ere long they should see him hanged vpon one of the pillars of *S. Markes Church*. These vsurers beleeuing this to be true, and desirous to make gaine of any thing, beganne to enter into the course of laying wagers, as the Castilians had aduised them. The witnesses hearing they

offered so frankly a thousand for one, if the prisoner were judged to be *Dom Sebastian*, &c. knowing certainly that it was he beleeuing that the Senate, in regard of such especiall markes, tokens, and proofes, would not refuse to publish him, what they had found him: were easily drawne to bargain with these bankers, to some of the which, the simple and honest men gaue out twentie, some thirtie, some fiftie, some ten, some five crownes, in hope to be paid a thousand for one: so that they had giuen out some three hundred crownes or more; and shortly after they found out the wrong and hindrance they had done to the poore Kings cause, by their mony, they begun to repent themselves exceedingly of their folly: the account was cast, that the repaiment would amount to three hundred thousand crownes. And the bankers seeing themselves engaged for so great a sum of monie; and if the Senate should chance to publish that which they knew to be true, that they were like to be stripped of the greatest part of their substance, began to complot and oppose themselves to counterchecke the truth, which fell out to be a great preiudice and barre to the King my maisters cause; for that many chiefe men, and the factors of many principall houses, were interested in this hazard of indemnitie: as those of the house of *Astroci*, *Caponi*, *Baglioni*, *Labia*, *Iacobo Begia*, *Antonio Simone*, *Pietro Tobon*, *Bastian Garinoni*, and many others of their parents and allies, for their sakes: among which were diuers that bare office in the common-weale, as *Iacobo Fuscurni* a professor in *S. Marke*, that was euer enemy to the King my maister. In the end this diuellish inuention, and Castilian pernicious pollicie, wrought vs much woe, and multiplied our enemies infinitely: for it was so commonly knowne and spoken, that litle children as they went for mustard, could say, that this was the principall cause why the Senators would haue had *Dom Sebastian* say, he was not *Dom Sebastian* but a Calabrian, and they promised straight to set him at libertie; and not that fauour alone, but they would do what else for him, he could or would require. Whereupon he wrote a letter to the Pope, complaining iustly vpon the Senators of Venice, for requiring at his hands so vniuersall a thing, to whom he declared in his letter, that he answered

swered them, that he had rather die a tortured death, then confesse so palpable an vntruth, to gaine an ignominious life and libertie. O that it were possible for me to speake all that is true in this case! but I must let passe infinite iniuries, least the revealing all, might rather aggrauate then relieue my maisters miserie. If I durst, this discourse should haue bene more ample, and better vnderstood, if it were lawfull that I might say what I could say, that the Monarks and Princes of Christendome, haue done: the King my Lord secretly and openly much good and ill, and are vnwilling either of both should be manifested to the world in writing. Notwithstanding I will neuer burie in silence an answer that a grand *Sabio* of this commonwealth made to a magnificent Prince in Europe, of great vnderstanding, but of no great antiquitie. This *Sabio* going to visite this Prince, was intreated by him to tell him what ground the Seigniorie of Venice had, to proceed vpon the prisoner in that forme, which called himselfe *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugal: for (said he) if they found him to be a Calabrian, why did they set him at libertie without chastisement? And if it were verified vnto them by good proofes and euidence that he was *Dom Sebastian* King of Portugal, why did they vse him in that maner? The grand *Sabio* publicly made this answer in the presence of many. Sir, forasmuch as the affaires concerned the estate of Spaine, the Seigniorie would not presume to iudge whether it was he or not. This man was committed for disobeying a commaundement the Seigniorie laid vpon him, and therefore restrained two yeares of his libertie, to the end he might repent him of his fault, and after the expiration of two yeares againe dismissed him vpon the like commaundement. And to be plaine with your Excellencie: the man would follow no good aduice, but was wilfull, turbulent, and of ill gouernement, by which meanes much ill is come vnto him. That word ill aduised, might haue bene well interpreted, for that he would not denie himselfe to be that which vndoubtedly he was. It was not my fortune to be present at this act, being elsewhere employed out of those parts: but at my returne it was related to me, by a learned person that was there in present; which afterward the same Prince himselfe

did ratifie vnto me, assuring me that the answer of that *Sabio* grand, did verily induce him to beleue, that that prisoner was *Dom Sebastian* the very true King of Portugale: for if the Seigniorie had held this man to be a Calabrian: said this Prince, to what purpose did the *Sabio* hold me with such a long discourse publickely, considering he knew the priuie of the affaires; if he had bene proued a Calabrian, it had bene sufficient to haue said in a word; Sir, he was a Calabrian, an impostor, and a cosiner, without any more ado. But you see how the world fares, and how it swayes abruptly, and so ends my pitifull narration; aduising, intreating, and coniuring you (gentle Reader) to shun the snares and trips of these subtrill enemies: for I can assure you, by the testimonie of a good conscience, that they be those that *S. Chrysostome* terme the Pharises, *Qui portabant mel in ore, & fel in corde*: they will flap you in the mouth with homie, which when you begin to chew, perhaps you shall taste sweete, but in the digestion, you shall find it most bitter in operation.

Farewell.

FINIS.

